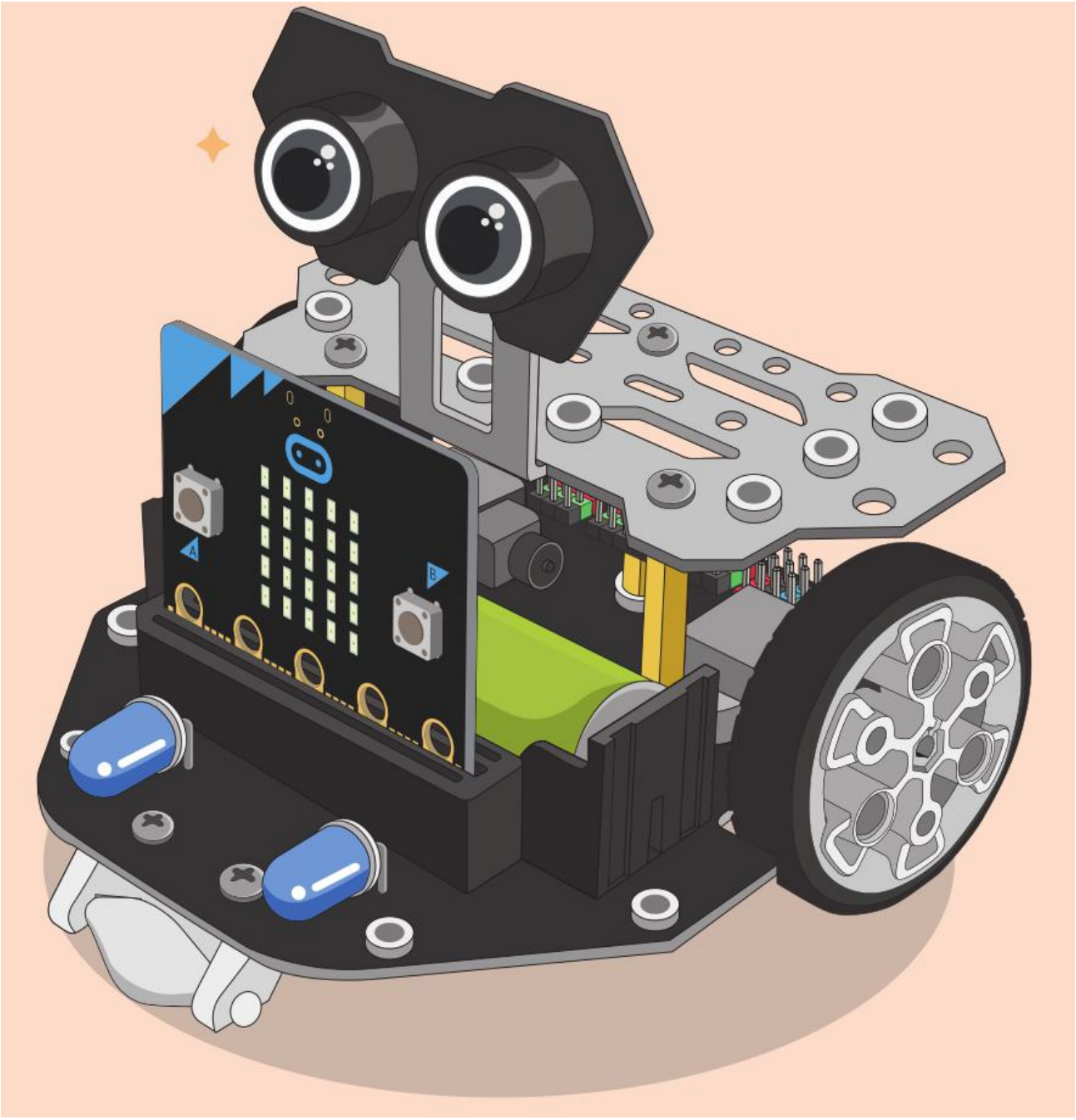
Getting Started with Maqueen Plus



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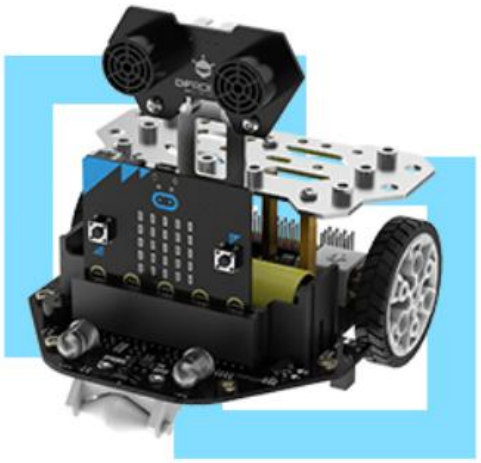
Content

Chapter 1 Introduction to Maqueen Plus

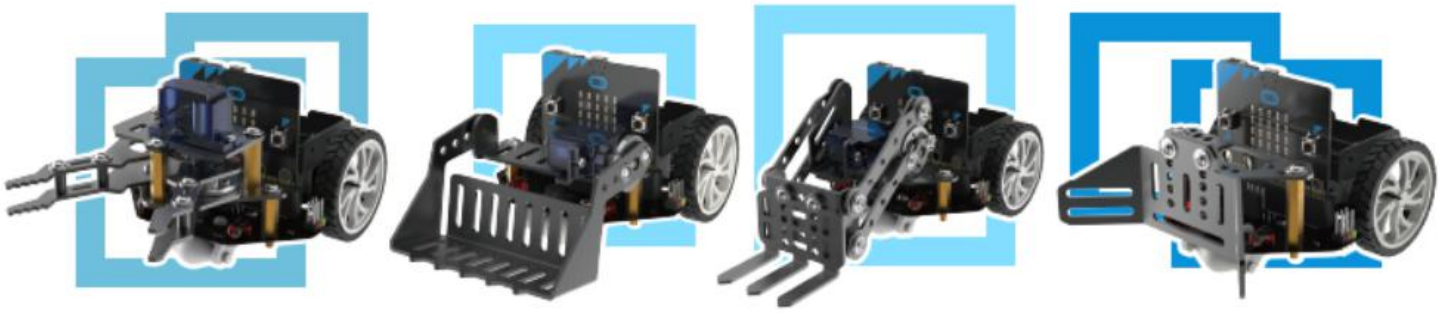
Introduction

Micro:Maqueen launched by DFRobot is a series of educational robot products for primary and secondary school programming. It includes a cost-effective “Lite” version, a powerful “Plus” version and rich peripherals such as “Mechanic”. You can choose different versions and peripherals based on your needs.

micro:Maqueen Lite

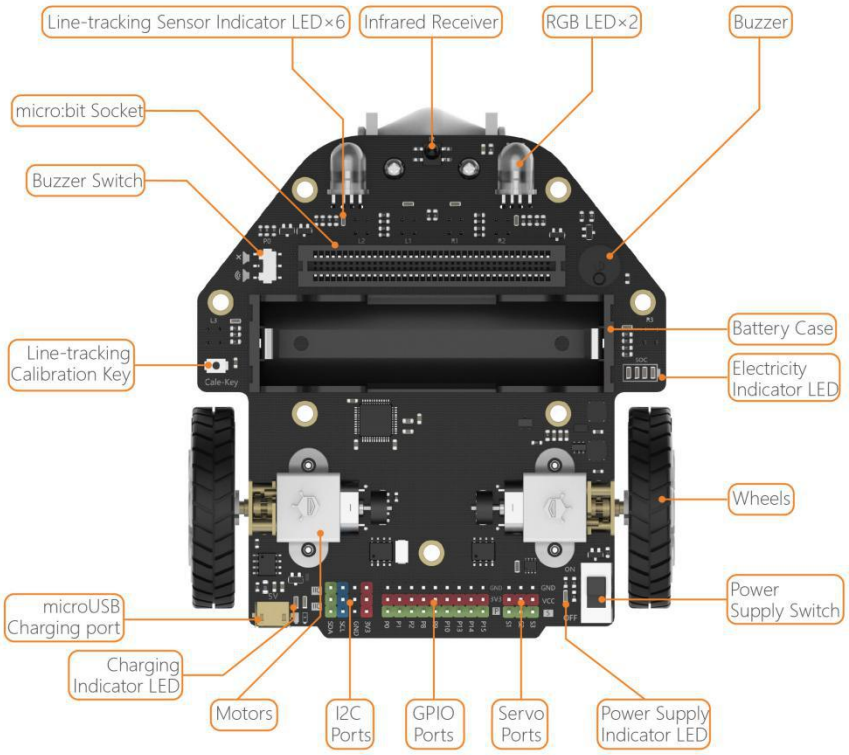


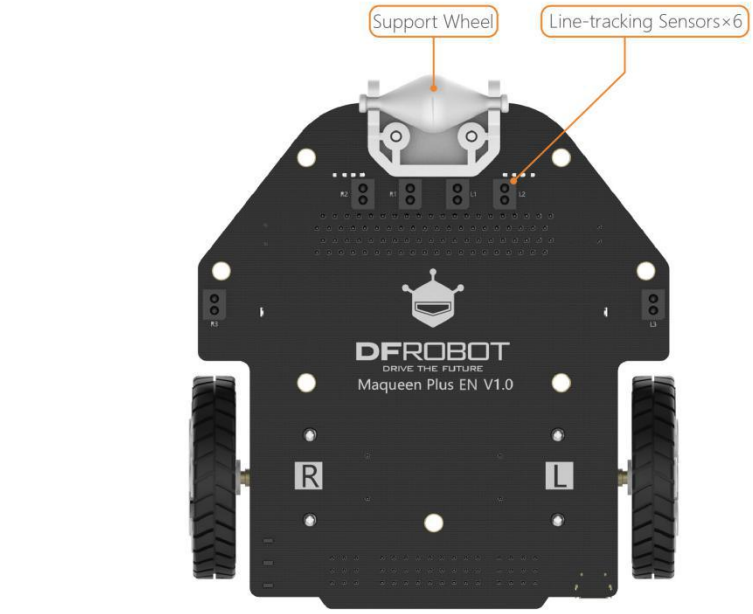
micro:Maqueen Plus



micro:Maqueen Mechanic

Overview


Line-tracking Sensor Indicator LED×6
Infrared Receiver
RGB LED×2
Buzzer
micro:bit Socket
Buzzer Switch
Battery Case
Line-tracking Calibration Key
Electricity Indicator LED
Wheels
Power Supply Switch
microUSB Charging port
Charging Indicator LED
Motors
I2C Ports
GPIO Ports
Servo Ports
Power Supply Indicator LED


Support Wheel
Line-tracking Sensors×6
DFROBOT
DRIVE THE FUTURE
Maqueen Plus EN V1.0
R
L

Specification

Power Supply：3.7V 18650 lithium battery

Charging Voltage: 5V

Charging Current: 900mA

Charging Time: about 4hours

Power Indicator: 4 LEDs

Motor Specification: N20 motor 260 R/M

Buzzer x1

RGB Light x2

GPIO Expansion Port: P0 P1 P2 P8 P12 P13 P14 P15 P16

I2C Port: x3

Servo Expansion Port: x3

Line-tracking Sensor x6

Line-tracking Sensor Output: digital +analog

Support Calibration for Line-tracking Sensor

IR Receiving Sensor x1

Ultrasonic Sensor: URM10

Top Metal Plate: x1

M3 Threaded Connections x12

Map Size: 50cmx50cm

Product Dimension: 107x100mm/4.21 x3.94”

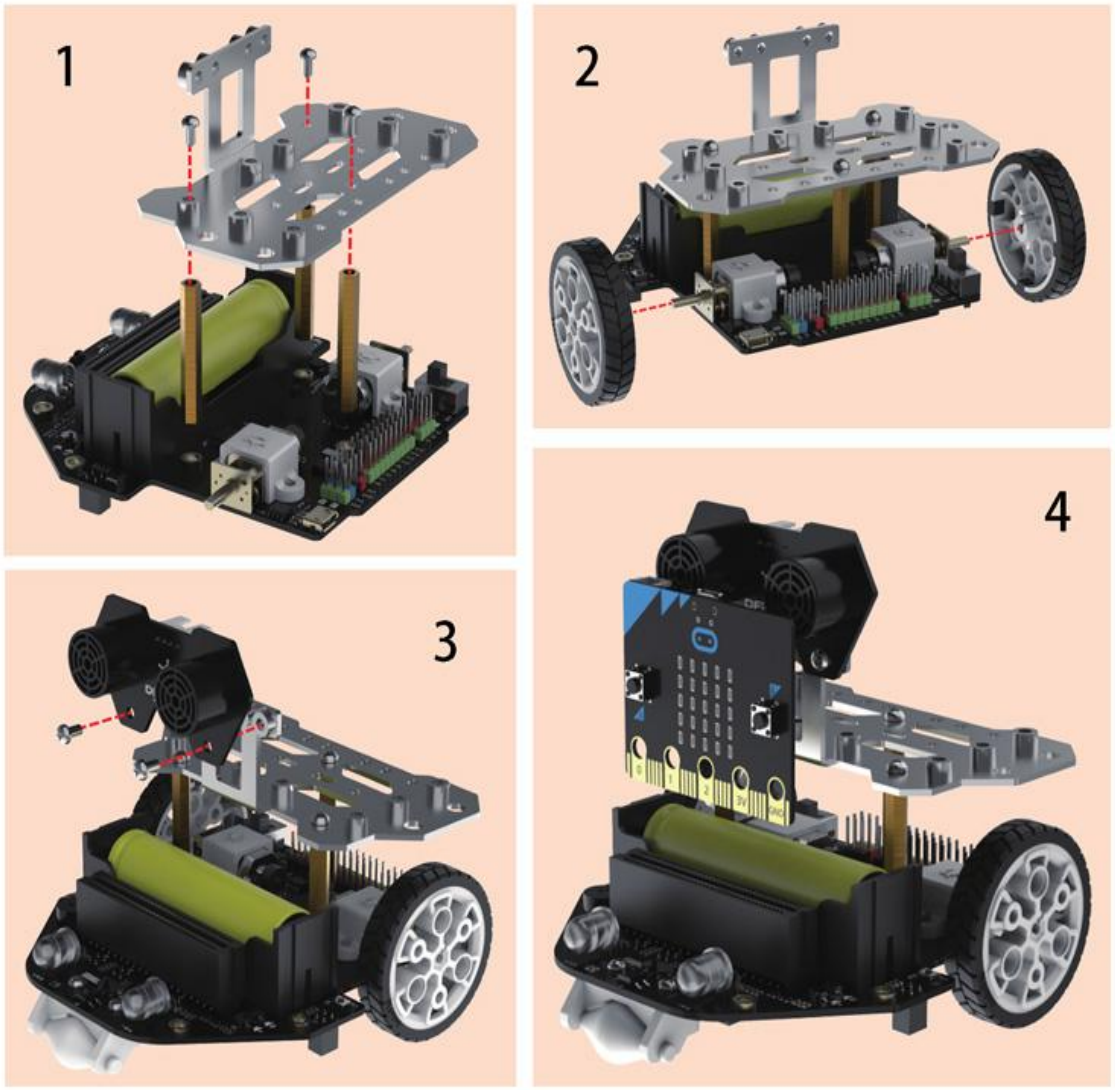
Maqueen Plus vs Maqueen Lite

Name	Maqueen Lite	Maqueen Plus
Power Supply	3 AAA Batteries	18650 Li-ion battery (2300mA~2500mA)
Charging circuit	×	√
Power display	×	√
Encoder and PID control	×	√
Support for installing Huskylens AI camera	×	√
Support for line-tracking sensor calibration	√	√
Support for analog reading of line-tracking sensor	×	√
Number of line-tracking sensor	2	6
Number of IO expansion port	4	12
Number of servo port	2	3
Number of mechanic expansion thread	2	16
Motor rated rotation speed	133	260
LED color	Red LED	Large size RGB LED with 7colors
Ultrasonic Model	H-SR04	DFRobot high-quality URM10 ultrasonic sensor
Continuous usage time with Huskylens	30min	180min

Standard continuous usage time	8h	24h
Come with line-tracking map	×	√
Onboard IR receiver and buzzer	√	√
Onboard WS2812 RGB LED	√	×

Assembly Guide

Note: power Maqueen Plus with18650 chargeable lithium battery. Pay attention to polarity when installing battery, and it is prohibited to short circuit the battery's positive and negative poles.

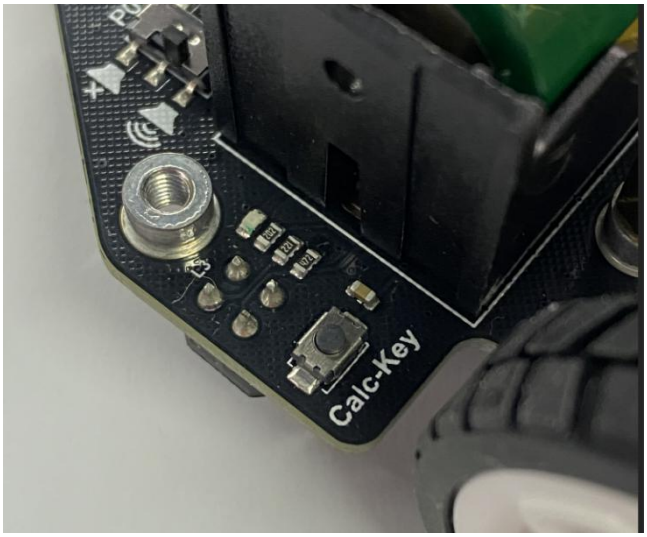


How to calibrate line-tracking sensor?

There are 6 line-tracking sensors on Maqueen Plus and each of them has an indicator. When a line-tracking sensor detects a black line, the corresponding indicator will light up. If you found that any line-tracking sensor is not sensitive to a black line, calibrate it as follows:

1. Put Maqueen Plus into the calibration area of the line-tracking map, turn on its power.

2. Press “Calc-key” for about 1 second, the 2 front large LEDs will flash in green. Release the key, then calibration is done.



If all the line-tracking sensor indicators turn on in the black area and turn off in the white area, the calibration is successful.

Note:

1. The internal chip will automatically save the calibration, so you do not need to calibrate it every time you use it.
2. Maqueen Plus has been factory calibrated, and it can be used directly normally.

Chapter 2 Programming Maqueen Plus on MakeCode

The basic usage of MakeCode will be omitted here. This chapter will mainly introduce the function of Maqueen Plus and how to program it on MakeCode.

MakeCode address and program library

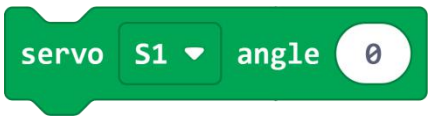
MakeCode programming platform address: https://makecode.microbit.org

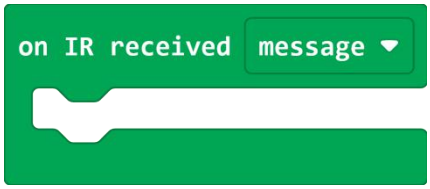
Maqueen Plus library: https://github.com/DFRobot/pxt-DFRobot-MaqueenPlus

Huskylens AI Camera library: https://github.com/DFRobot/pxt-DFRobot_HuskyLens

OLED Screen library: https://github.com/DFRobot/pxt-OLEDV1

Maqueen Plus Functions

	**I2C Init** **Function:** a necessary block for initializing I2C communication. This block only needs to run once at the start of main program. If the communication fails, micro:bit LED matrix will display "× " otherwise, it displays " √ " .
	**Motor Control** **Function:** control the direction and speed of Maqueen Plus. **Motor:** left, right, all **Direction:** CW, CCW **Speed:** 0~255
	**Motor Stop** **Function:** stop motor, same as adjusting motor speed to 0. **Motor:** left, right, all
	**RGB LED Control** **Function:** control the two LEDs on Maqueen Plus. **LED:** RGB_L, RGB_R **Color:** red, green, blue, yellow, purple, cyan, white, turn off.
	**Servo Drive** **Function:** set the angle of servo connected to S1,S2, S3. **Port:** S1, S2, S3 **Angle:** 0~180° (Recommend not exceed 170°)

	**Read Line-tracking Sensor** **Function:** read the value of the six line-tracking sensors on Maqueen Plus. When a black line is detected, the line-tracking sensor indicator will be on, and the sensor outputs 1. Otherwise, the indicator turns off, output 0. **Sensor:** L1, L2, L3, R1, R2, R3 **Return:** black 1, white 0
	**Read the Received IR Value** **Function:** read the value received by onboard IR sensor. It uses the NEC IR protocol, and the returned value has been converted into decimal data type. **Return:** decimal integer(Read the last two digits of the hexadecimal key value of the remote control, and convert it into a decimal number.) **Protocol:** NEC
	**On IR Received Block(Triggered by an event)** **Function:** when an IR data received, save it into the variable message, and run the codes inside this block. **Data Type:** decimal integer(Read the last two digits of the hexadecimal key value of the remote control, and convert it into a decimal number.) **Protocol:** NEC
	**PID Switch** **Function:** set PID for motor driving. Turn on PID to adjust the speed and torque of the motor in real time. When PID is enabled, the motor offers accurate speed and large torque even at low speed. But there is about 50ms delay for PID adjustment, so it may not be suitable for high real-time control. **Can be set:** on, off
	**Motor Speed Compensation** **Function:** adjust speed difference caused by driving roads, wheels and motor parameters in PID mode. **Motor:** left, right **Speed Range:** 0~255 (This value is not the actual speed, it corresponds to 0 ~ 1 revolution, and the maximum compensation value is 1 RPM)

	**Read Motor Actual Speed** **Function:** the hall sensor installed on the end part of Maqueen Plus that can detect motor speed in real-time. **Motor:** left, right **Return Value Range:** 0~255
	**Read Motor Direction** **Function:** the hall sensor installed on the end part of Maqueen Plus that can detect motor speed in real-time. **Motor:** left, right **Return Value Range:** 0 stop; 1 forward; 2 back
	**Read Grayscale of Line-tracking Sensor** **Function:** detect the grayscale of a black line. Set different gray segments on a routine to make Maqueen Plus execute various instruction, like slowing down, stopping, etc. **Sensor:** L1 L2 L3 R1 R2 R3 **Return Value Range:** 0~4095
	**Read Distance from Ultrasonic Sensor** **Function:** Maqueen Plus is equipped with URM10 ultrasonic sensor for detecting distance. It offers 5cm~300cm detection range , and 1cm~3cm error. It will be more accurate when detection distance is in 20cm~80cm. The return value will be 0 when over 300cm. **Option:** connect T and E of the sensor as the same with the software setting. **Detection Range:** 5cm~300cm

Huskylens AI Camera Block Description

	**I2C Init** **Function:** a necessary for initializing I2C communication protocol. This block only needs to run once at the start of main program. If the communication fails, the micro:bit Matrix will show "×" , otherwise, it displays " √ " .
	**Functions Switch** **Function:** set the working mode of Huskylens. It only needs to run once at the start of main program most of time. The function selection should be the same as the hardware connection. There are 6 working modes: 1. Face Recognition

	2. Object Tracking 3. Object Recognition 4. Line Tracking 5. Color Recognition 6. Tag Recognition
	**Request data once from Huskylens** **Function:** a necessary block for HuskyLens. It is usually used in a loop and can be called multiple times. Execute once to read data from Huskylens, such as value of X, Y or Z and ID data.
	**Read total number of IDs that Huskylens have learned** **Function:** read the total number of objects Huskylens learned and use it as a variable, return data of unsigned integer.
	**Judge if HuskyLens detected object and box or arrow appears on the screen** **Function:** a judgment statement to determine whether HuskyLens detects a object, there will be a box or arrow appearing on the screen if it detects. **Object detected, return:** true **Object not detected, return:** false **Option:** box, arrow
	**Read the value of box near the centre of screen** **Function:** HuskyLens can detect multiple objects at the same time, and this block can be used to read the value of box near the centre of screen with providing several kinds of readings: ID：read the ID number of the box **X center:** read the x-axis of the centre point of box. **Y center:** read the y-axis of the centre point of box. **Width:** read the width of box in pixel. **Height:** read the height of box in pixel.
	**Read the value of arrow near the centre of screen** **Function:** HuskyLens can detect multiple lines in Line-tracking mode, and this block can be used

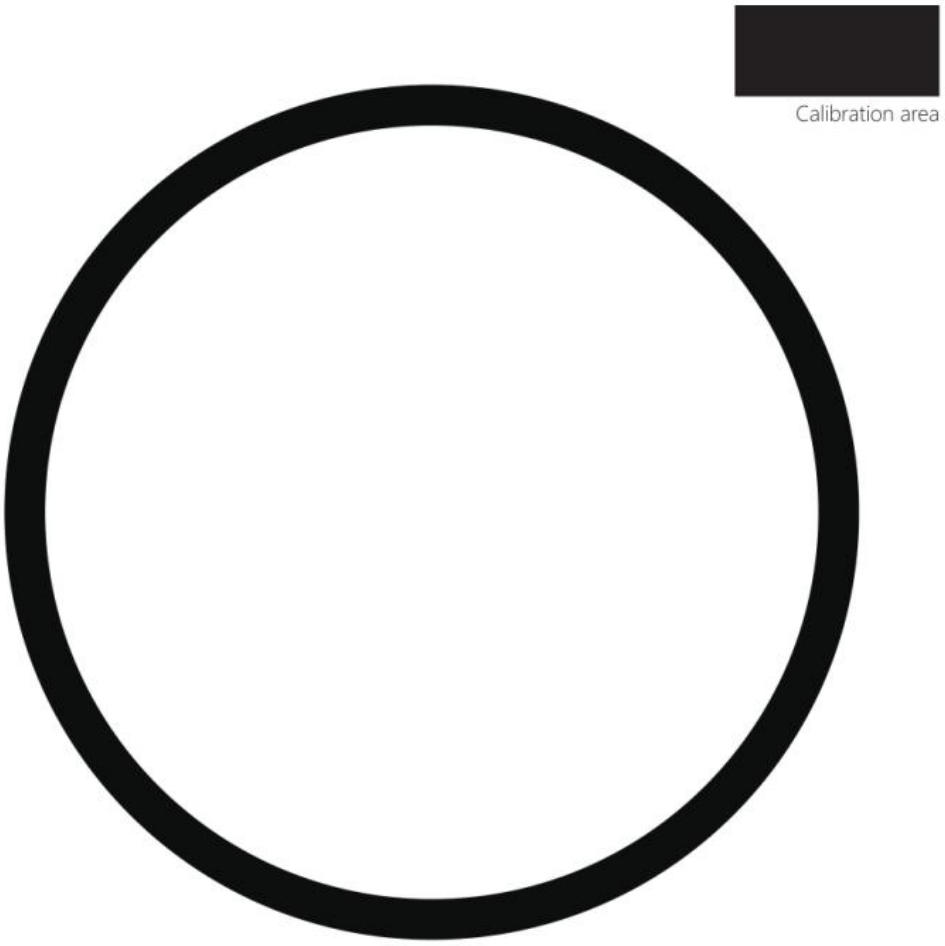
	to read the value of arrow near the centre of screen with providing several readings: **ID:** read the ID number of arrow **X Start:** read the X-axis of the starting point of arrow. **Y Start:** read the Y-axis of the starting point of arrow. **X End:** read the X-axis of the endpoint of arrow. **Y End:** read the Y-axis of the endpoint of arrow.
	**Judge if the detected object has been learned** **Function:** determine whether an object has been learned when HuskyLens detected multiple objects so as to avoid causing chaos during data calling. **Object learned, return:** true **Object not learned, return:** false
	**Judge if a specific learned ID appears on the screen.** **Function:** HuskyLens can detect and learn multiple object IDs, and record them with ID numbers. This block is used to determine if a learned object ID appears on the screen. **Appeared in the screen, return:** true **Not appeared on the screen, return:** false
	**Read box parameter of a specific ID** **Function:** Huskylens can store different objects with ID numbers when it detected multiple objects. This block is used to read box parameter of a specific ID. **Parameter option:** X center, Y center, Width, Height (Unit: pixel)
	**Read arrow parameter of a specific ID** **Function:** Huskylens can store different objects with ID number when it detected multiple objects. This block is used to read arrow parameter of a specific ID. **Parameter option:** X start, Y start, X end, Y end (Unit: pixel)
	**Read total number of recognized arrow or box on the screen** **Function:** read the total number of recognized objects on the screen, usually used in object recognition mode.

	Option: arrow, box
	**Read box parameter of a specific serial number on the screen.** **Function:** objects are recognized in order, and this block can be used to read box parameter of a specific serial number, for instance, read the box parameter of the second recognized object. **Option:** ID, X center, Y center, width, Height (Unit: pixel)
	**Read arrow parameter of a specific serial number on the screen** **Function:** objects are recognized in order, and this can be used to read arrow parameter of a specific serial number, for instance, read the arrow parameter of the second recognized object. **Option:** ID, X start, Y start, X end, Y end(Unit: pixel)
	**Read total number of box or arrow of a specific ID on the screen** **Function:** read the total number of the recognized objects on the screen. For example, count how many cars are in the screen when it learned the car. **Option:** arrow, box
	**Read box parameter of a specific serial number range on the screen** **Function:** objects are recognized in order, and this block can be used to box parameter of a specific serial number range, for instance, to read box parameter of the second to the fifth recognized objects. **Option:** ID, X center, Y center, width, height (Unit: pixel)
	**Read arrow parameter of a specific serial number range on the screen** **Function:** objects are recognized in order, and this block can be used to arrow parameter of a specific serial number range, for instance, to read arrow parameter of the second to the fifth recognized objects. **Option:** ID, X start, Y start, X end, Y end (Unit: pixel)

Project 1: Line follower moving along a circle

1-1 Introduction

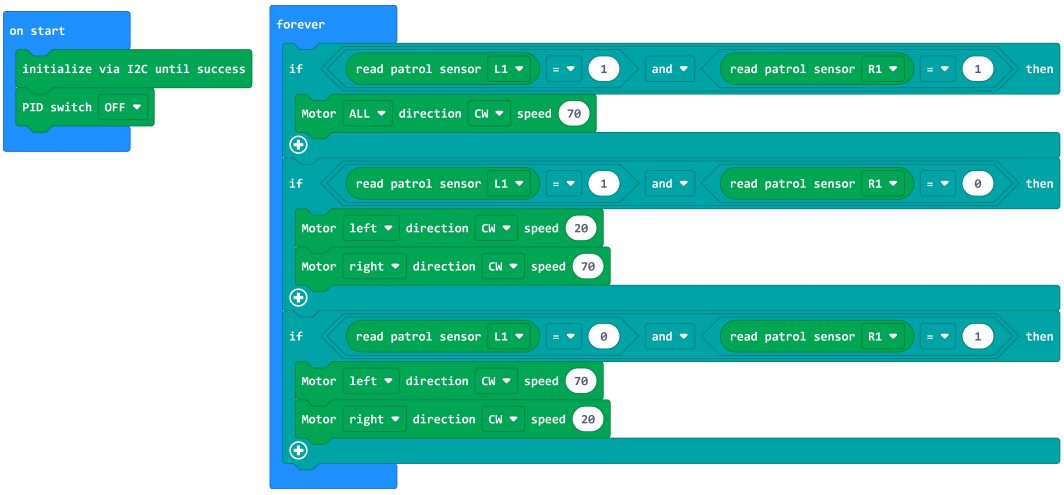
Turn Maqueen Plus into a line follower and program it to move along a circle.



1-2 Program Link

https://makecode.microbit.org/_Mz5aDj3dp92w

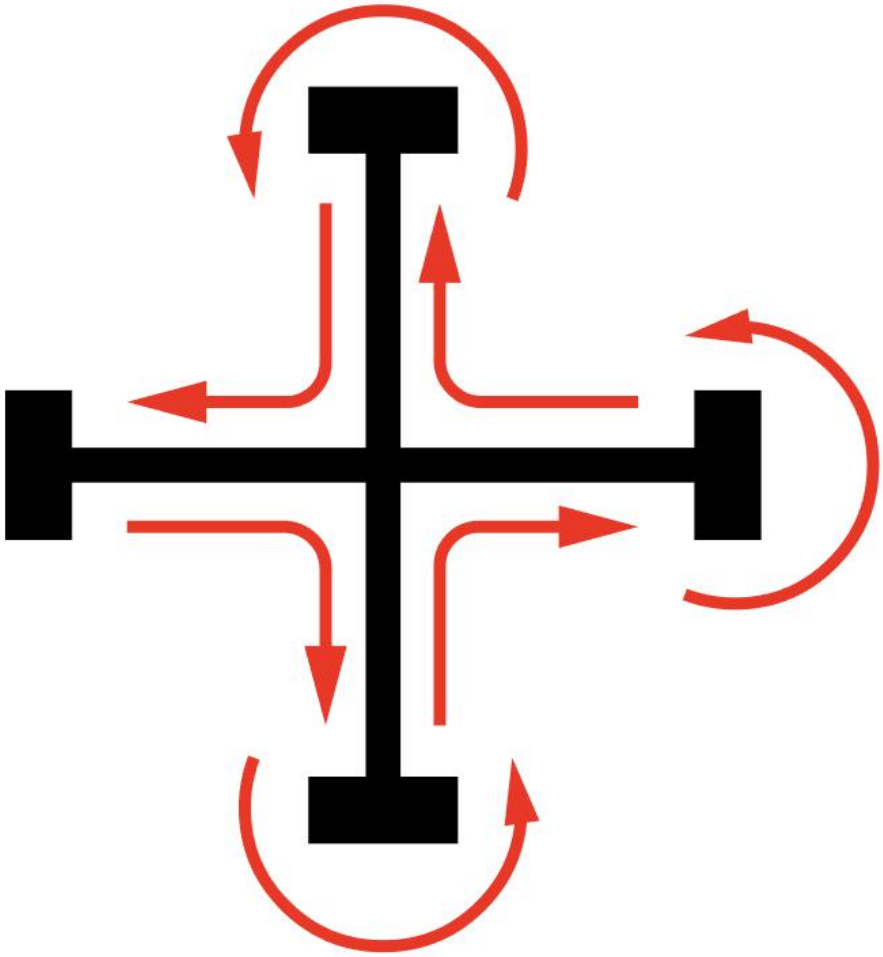
1-3 Example Code



Project 2: Line follower moving along a cross line

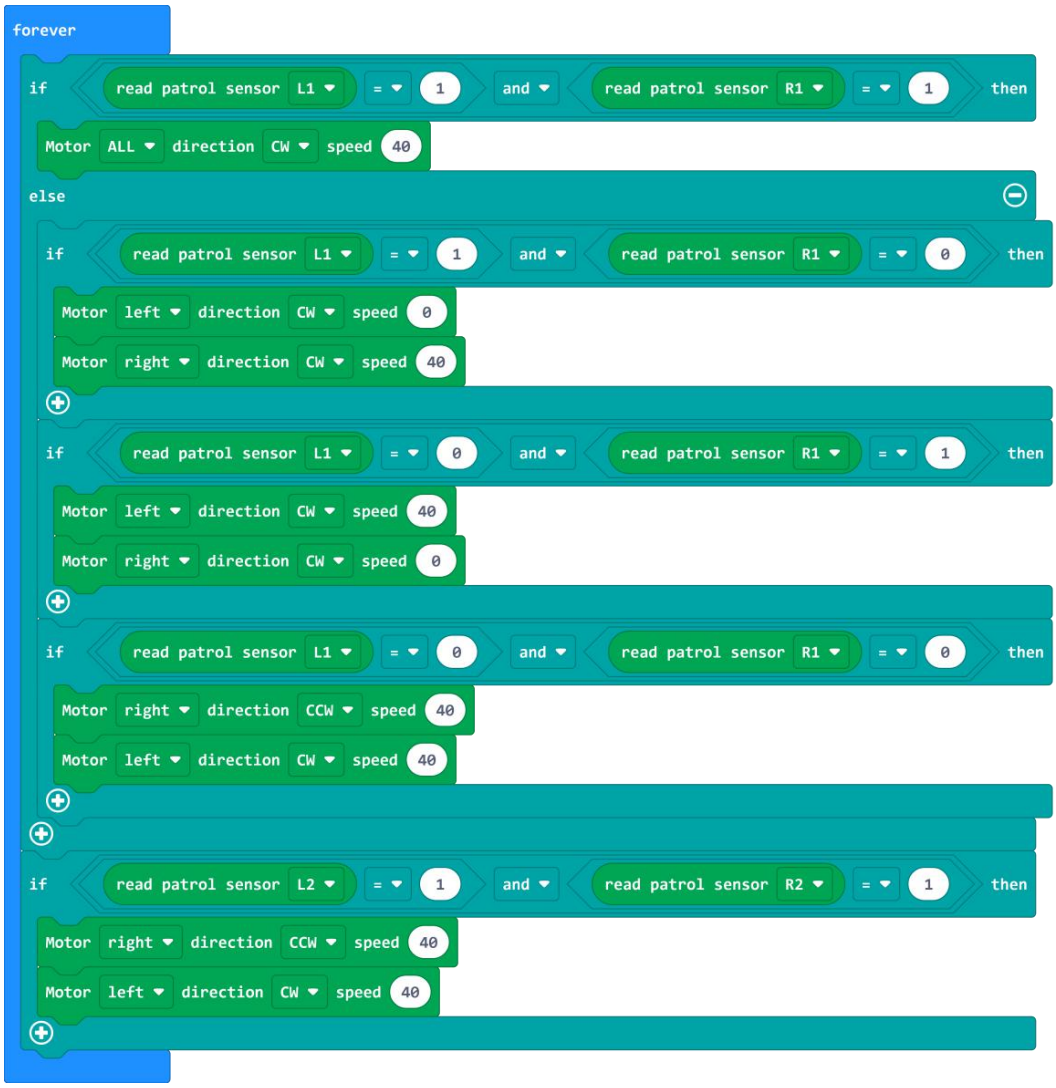
2-1. Introduction

Program Maqueen Plus drive along the cross line on the map. 4 line-tracking sensors will be used in this project.



2-2 Program Link: https://makecode.microbit.org/_Kfw1qqUXeVj4

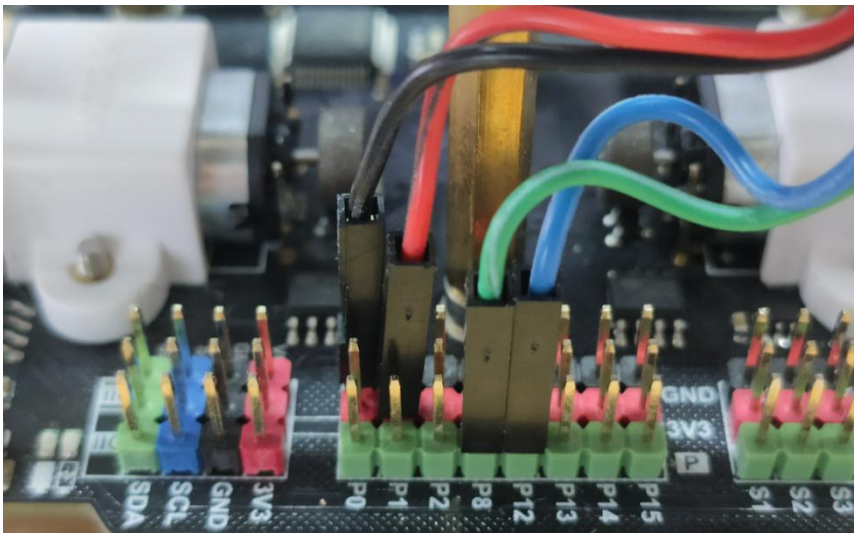
2-3 Example Code:



Project 3: Obstacle Avoidance Robot

3-1 Introduction

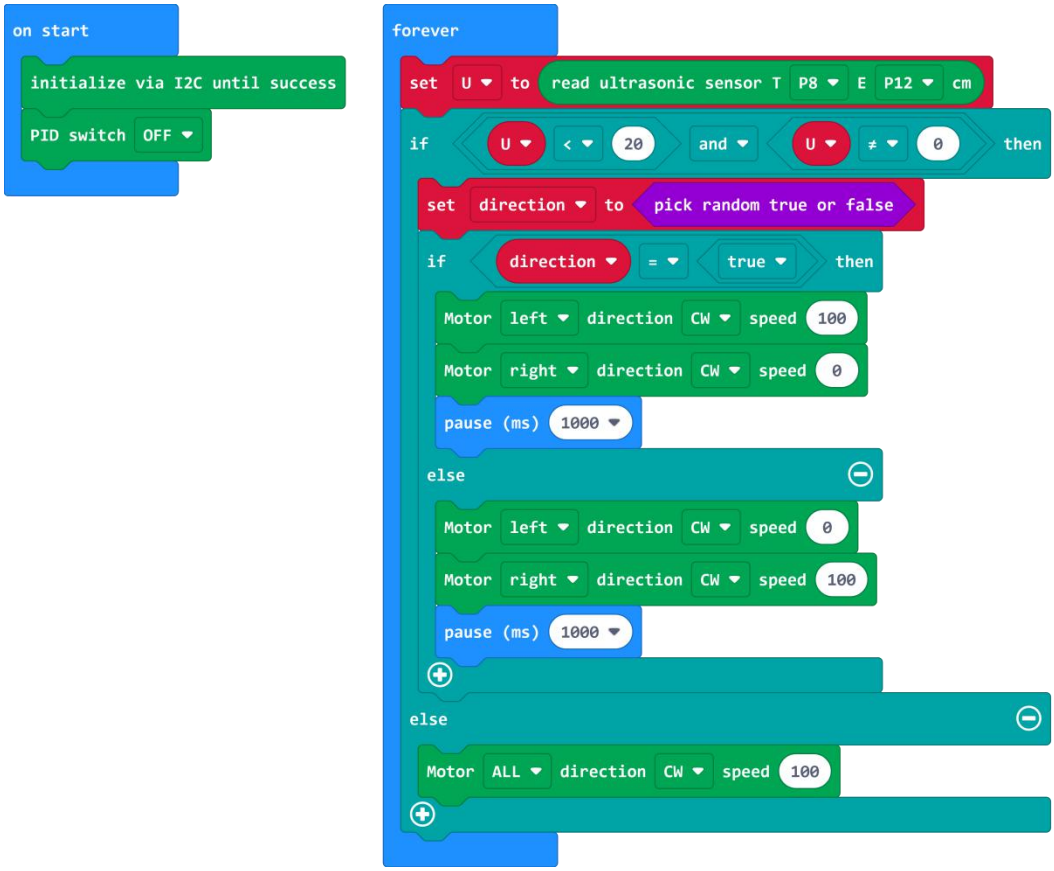
The ultrasonic sensor constantly detects the distance between the Maqueen Plus and obstacle ahead in moving, when the distance is smaller than 20cm, Maqueen Plus randomly turns left or right to avoid the obstacle. Connect the ultrasonic sensor to P8(green wire) and P12(blue wire), just corresponding to the port setting in the program. The red wire should be connected to a 3.3V port, and the black one to a GND port.



3-2 Program Link

https://makecode.microbit.org/_bD150m79X8w2

3-3 Example Code



Project 4: IR-controlled Maqueen Plus

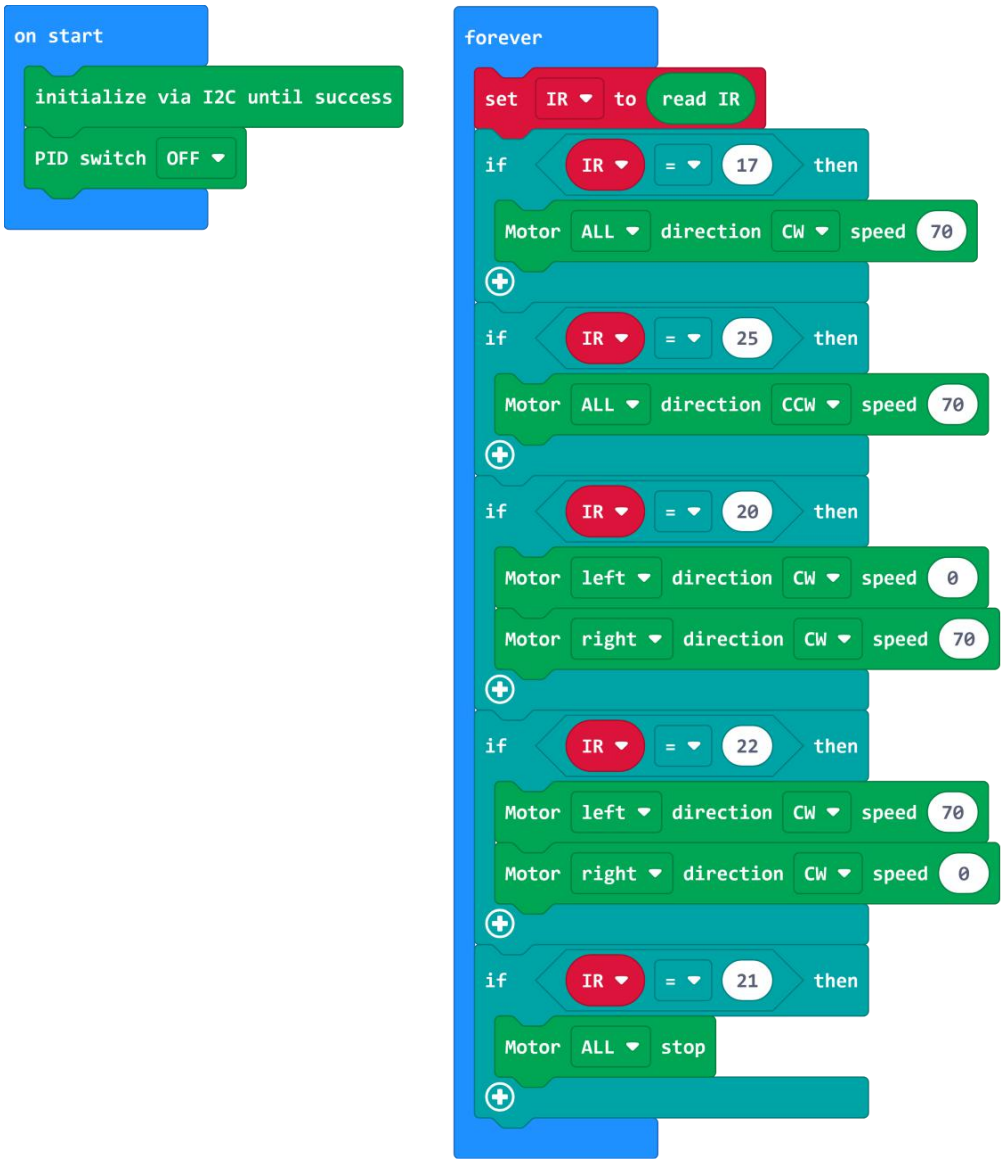
4-1 Introduction

Use the keys 2, 4, 6, 8 and 5 on the remote controller to operate Maqueen Plus.

4-2 Program Link

https://makecode.microbit.org/_ccr5CCg62VbC

4-3 Example Code



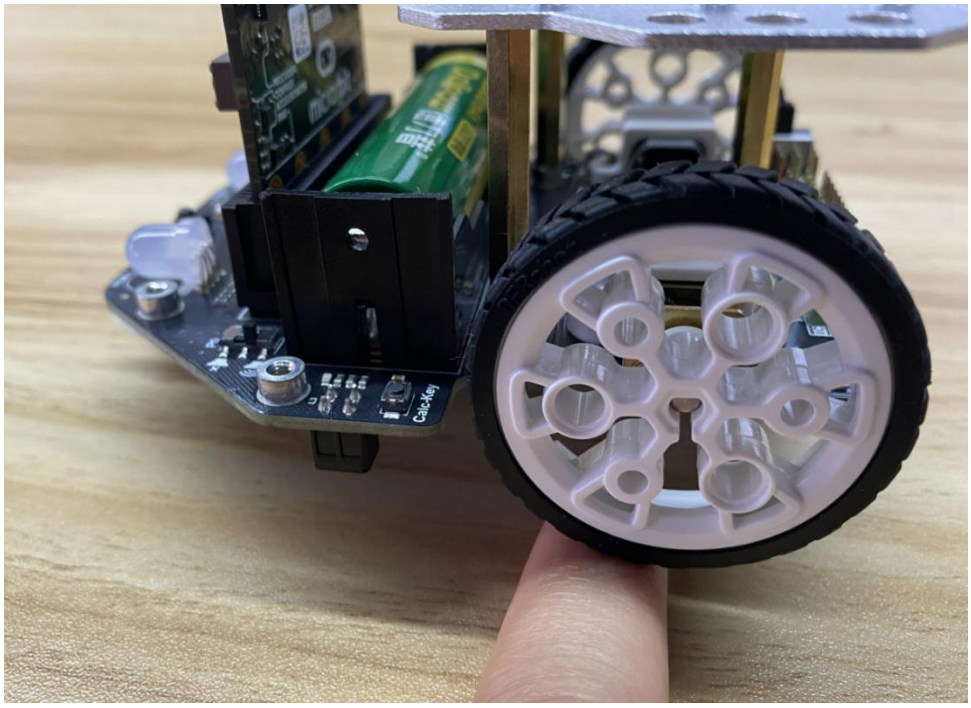
4-4 Remote Controller Key Value List

Key	Value(In hexadecimal)	Value(In decimal)
Red Key	0xff00	0
VOL+	0xfe01	1
FUNC/STOP	0xfd02	2
Left Arrow	0xfb04	4
Pause	0xfa05	5
Right Arrow	0xf906	6
Down Arrow	0xf708	8
VOL-	0xf609	9
Up Arrow	0xf50a	10
0	0xf30c	12
EQ	0xf20d	13
ST/REPT	0xf10e	14
1	0xef10	16
2	0xee11	17
3	0xed12	18
4	0xeb14	20
5	0xea15	21
6	0xe916	22
7	0xe718	24
8	0xe619	25
9	0xe51a	26

Project 5: PID Control for Maqueen Plus

5-1 Introduction

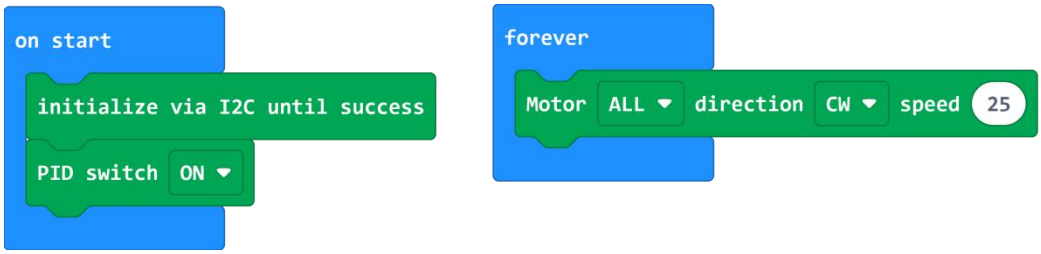
PID can accurately adjust the speed of the two motors and guarantee enough torque at different speeds. Maqueen Plus comes with an on-board encoder and PID control function, which can adjust the torque and speed of a motor in real-time. Download the program, and try letting Maqueen Plus climb across some small obstacles like finger, eraser, etc.



5-2 Program Link

https://makecode.microbit.org/_YxpKywbJxakH

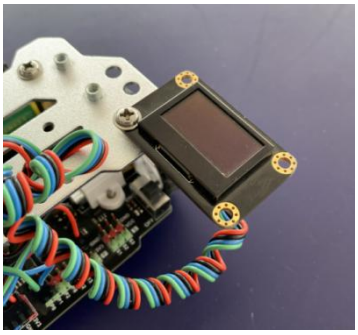
5-3 Example Code



Project 6: Speed up and Slow down

6-1 Introduction

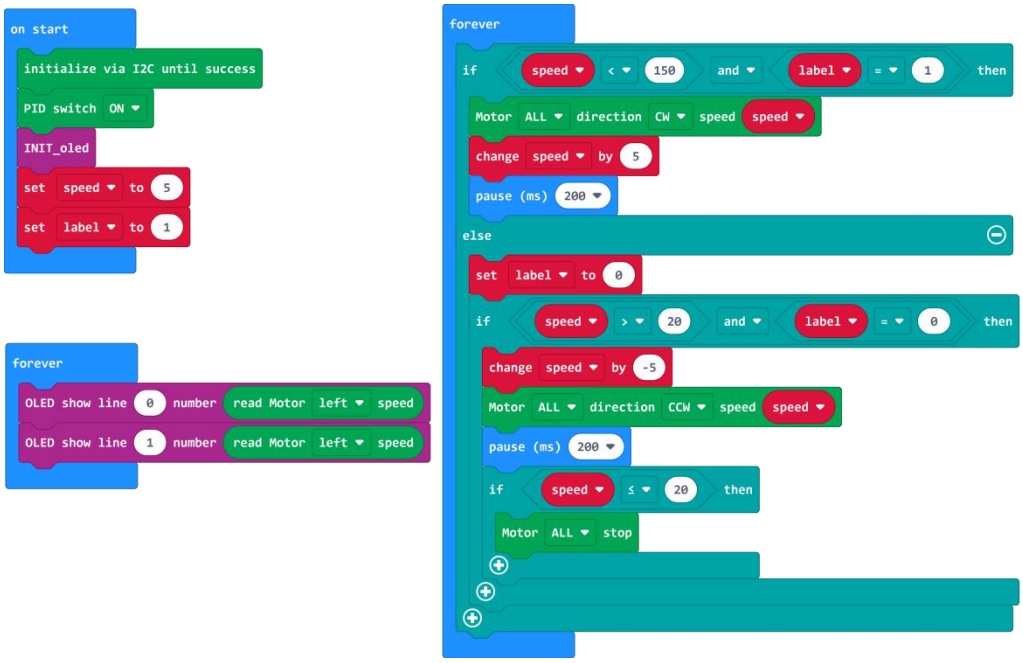
Maqueen Plus constantly goes faster until the speed reaches 150, then gradually slowing down. When its speed is small than 20, stop moving. Meanwhile, the current speed will be displayed on the OLED screen. Enable PID function to control the speed accurately.



6-2 Program Link

https://makecode.microbit.org/_6bDYxchJk9Lk

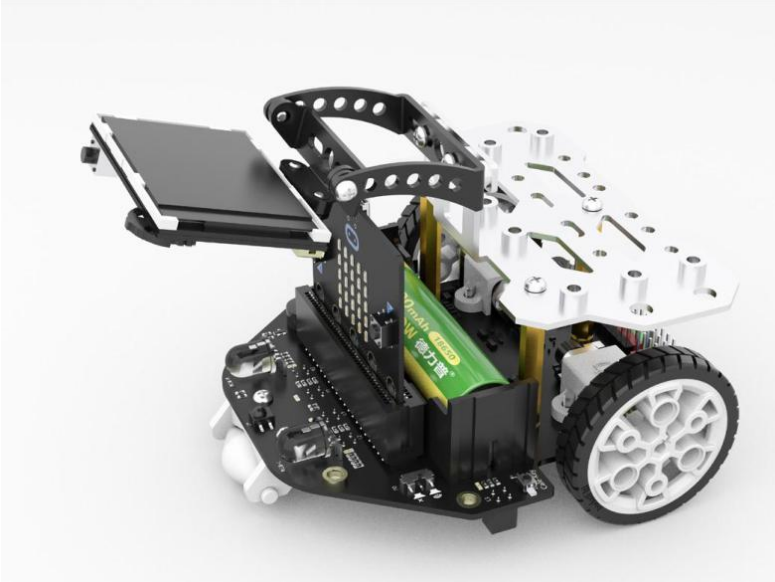
6-3 Example Code



Project 7: Huskylens AI Camera - Line Tracking

7-1 Introduction

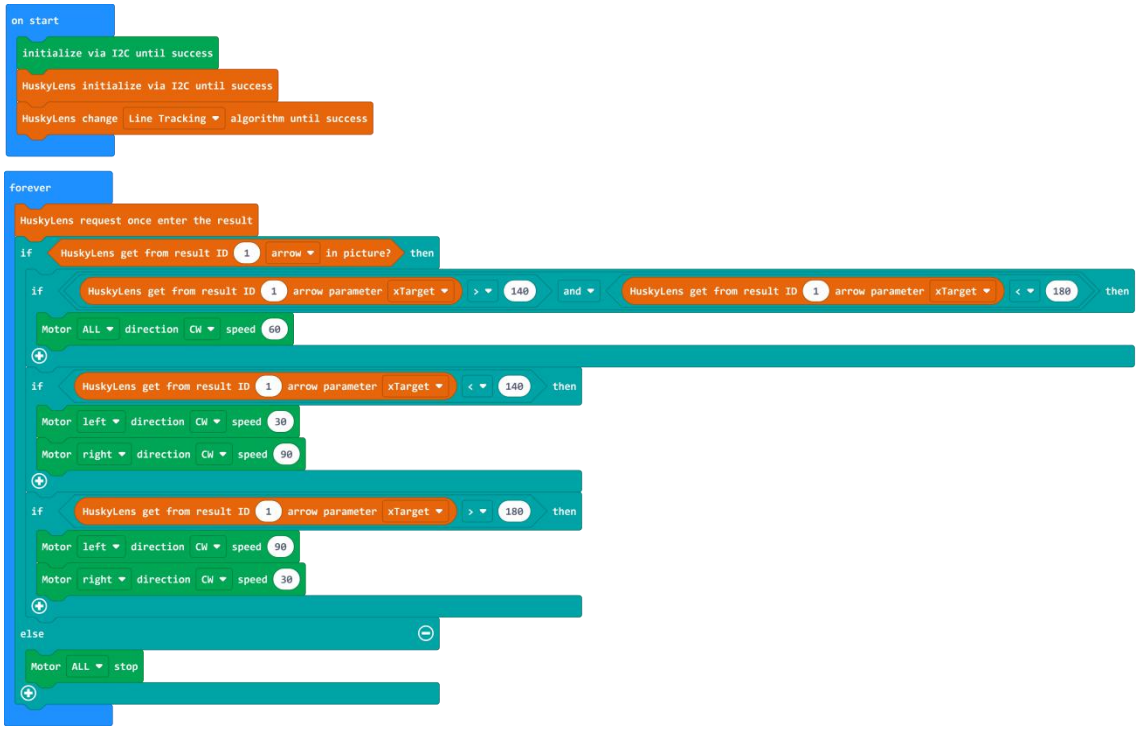
Let Maqueen Plus work with Huskylens camera. The camera recognizes the black line, then Maqueen Plus drives along that road. Download program into micro:bit, adjust the angle of the camera, put the Maqueen Plus on the line, and power on.



7-2 Program Link

https://makecode.microbit.org/_W5fdWb8xea15

7-3 Example Code



Project 8: Huskylens AI Camera - Tail After

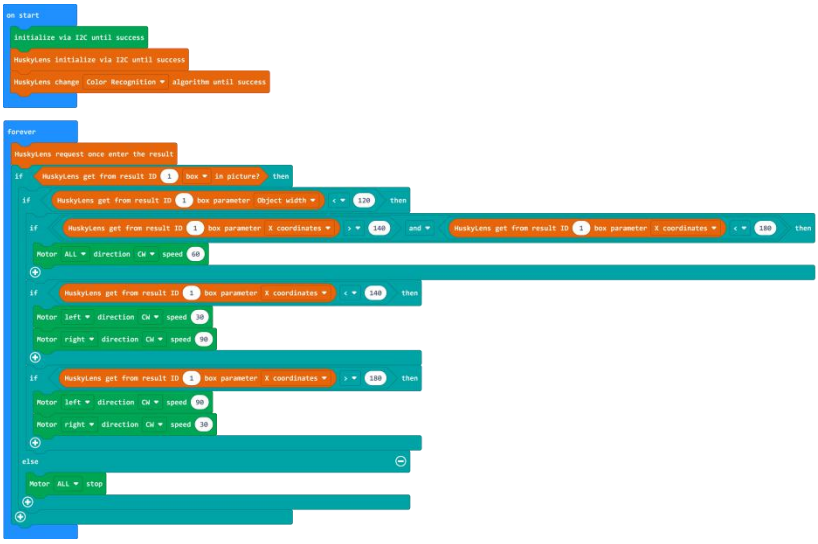
8-1 Introduction

Two Maqueen Plus cars will be used here. Let the first Maqueen car move forward freely, the second one tails after it using a Huskylens AI camera.

8-2 Program Link

https://makecode.microbit.org/_Y4ai3y2jvdEh

8-3 Example Code



Project 9: Huskylens AI Camera - Passing a Traffic Light

9-1 Introduction

Let Huskylens AI learn red and green cards. When it recognizes the green card, the Maqueen Plus car moves forward. When the red card is recognized, the car stops. At the same time, the color recognized is displayed with the RGB LEDs on theMaqueen Plus.

Note: the surrounding environment should not be too complex in case causing misrecognitions.

9-2 Program Link

https://makecode.microbit.org/_e0Y86Pgc8gFg

9-3 Example Code

Project 10: Maqueen Mechanic - Loader

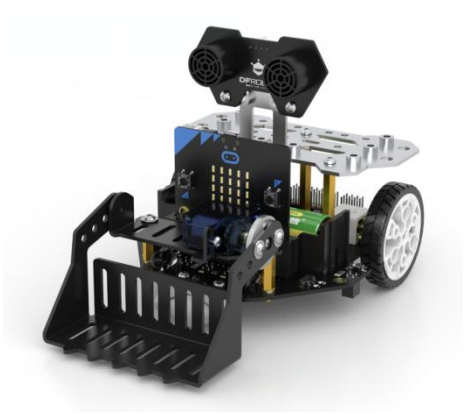
10-1 Introduction

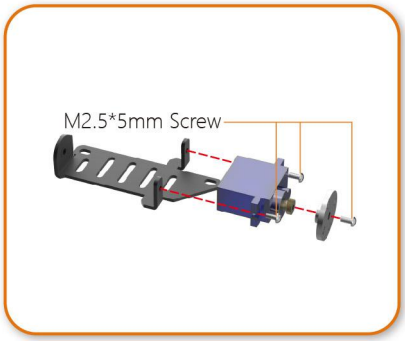
Try to install the Loader accessories on Maqueen Plus and use the remote control handle to operate it.

Necessary accessories: 1. Maqueen remote control handle 2. Maqueen loader accessories 3. Prepare one more micro:bit main board

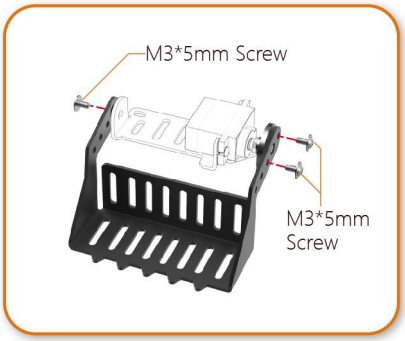
As shown in the figure below:

10-2 Assembly



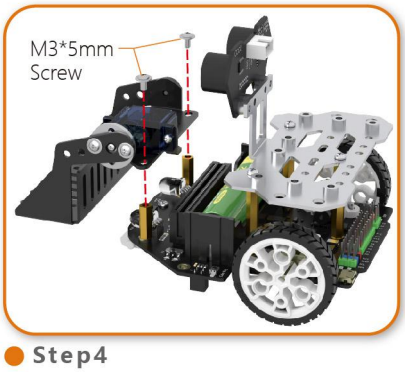


Step1



Step2

Step3



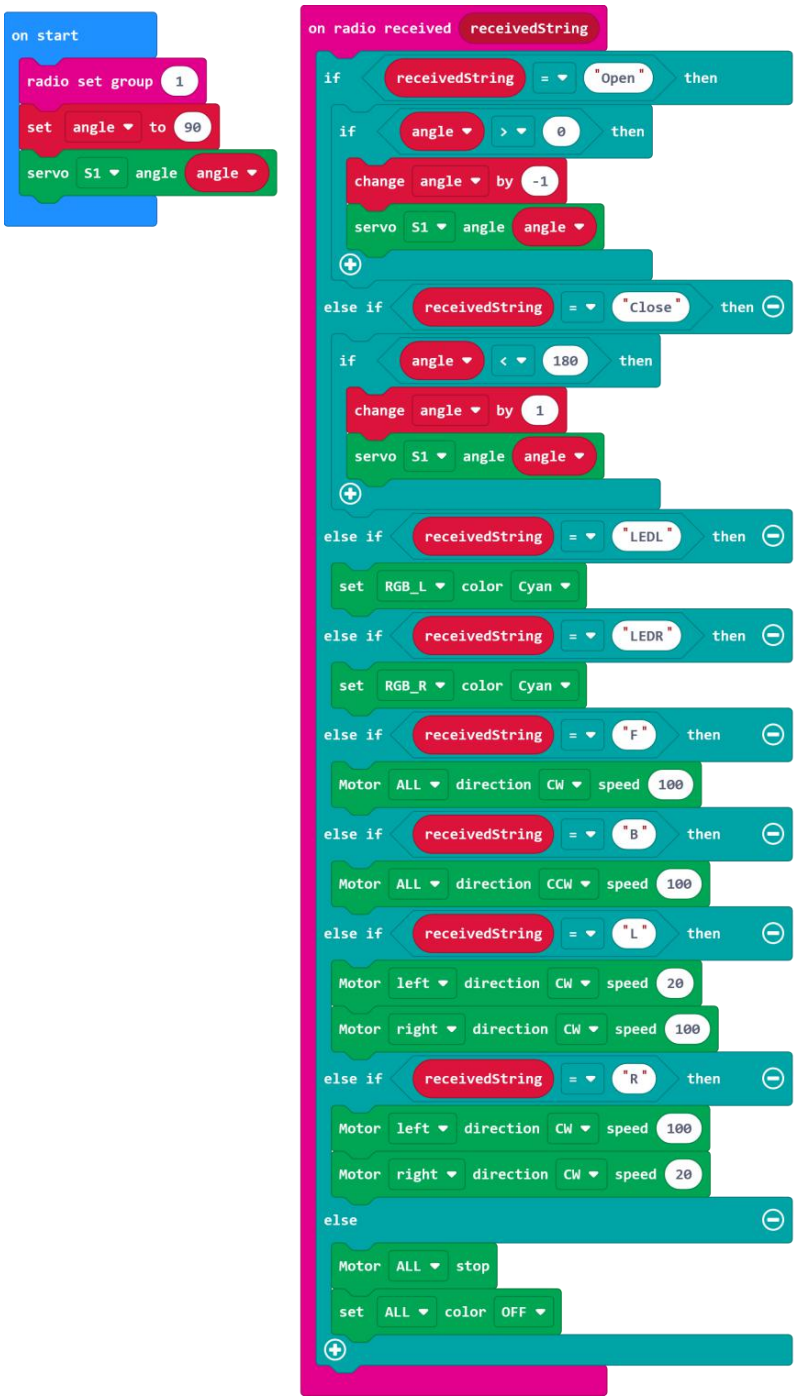
Step4

10-3 Program Link and Example Code

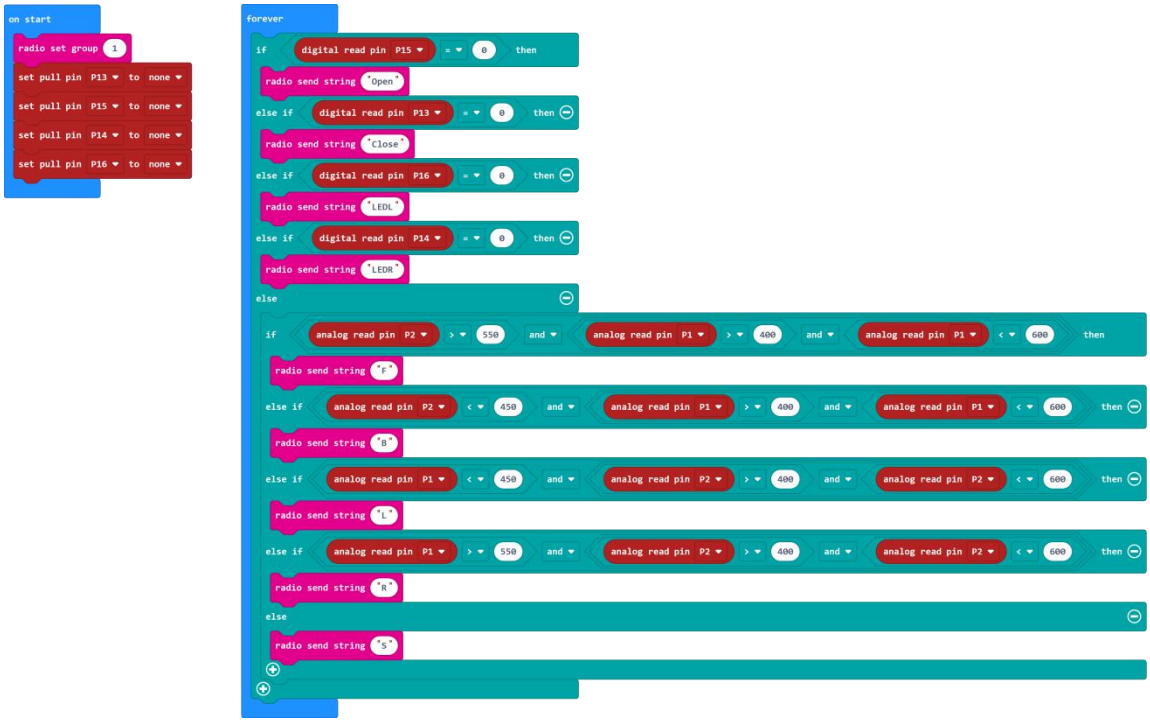
Set switch quantity for remote-control handle

In this project, the handle is set as the switch quantity, which is used to control the car to move forward, backward, left turn and right. But it can't control the speed. The up and down buttons on the right of the handle control the movement of Maqueen loader, and the left and right buttons control the RGB LEDs to be on and off.

Programs for Maqueen Plus: https://makecode.microbit.org/_MyscR05Vc2tz



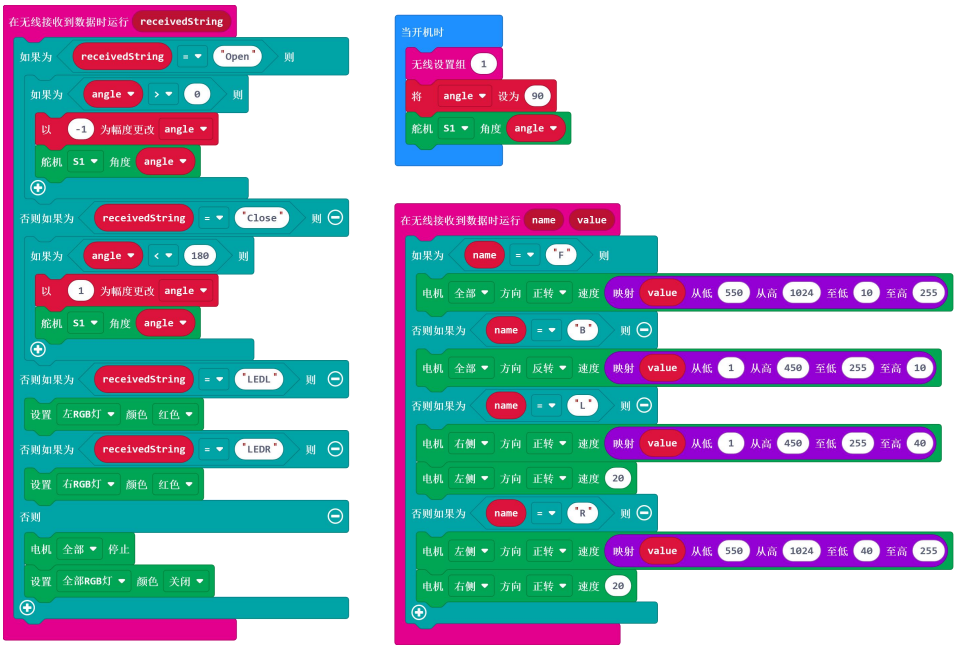
Program for Remote-control Handle:
https://makecode.microbit.org/_HRWfzpg02Mrv



Set analog quantity for remote-control handle

The remote-control handle is set as analog quantity, and then the speed and direction of Maqueen Plus can be controlled at the same time. The more the handle button is pressed, the faster Maqueen Plus will go. The up and down buttons on the right of the handle control the movement of Maqueen loader, and the left and right buttons control the RGB LEDs to be on and off.

Programs for Maqueen Plus: https://makecode.microbit.org/_daYbLRYaUTi7



Program for Remote-control Handle:
https://makecode.microbit.org/_Wmxd6k2Era7z