



- Introductions
- Overview
- Autonomous GNC
- Lego® Mindstorms Intro
- Lego® Mindstorms Challenge



Overview

2:00 – 3:15 – Robotics Laboratory Tutorial (Jade)

- Hardware components, ports, servo motors, sensors
 - Get to know your NXT (30 min.)
- Software development environment: BricxCC (10 min.)
- Programming: NXC (35 min.)

3:15 – 3:30 – Break

3:30 – 5:30 Laboratory Continued (All)

- Challenge 1: Building a Tri-Bot (30 minutes)
- Challenge 2: Use sonar for obstacle detection and avoidance (20 min.)
- Challenge 3: Color sensor calibration (10 min.)
- Challenge 4: Color line following (30 min.)



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Lego® Mindstorms: Introduction

- A line of Lego sets combining
 - Microcontroller (programmable brick)
 - Motors, sensors, and Lego parts
- Invented by MIT Media Lab
- First released in 1998 as Robotics Invention System
 - 2 motors, 2 touch sensors, 1 light sensor
- Lego Mindstorm NXT, 2006
 - 3 servo motors, 4 sensors (touch, light, sound, ultrasonic)
- Lego Mindstorm NXT 2.0, 2009
 - 3 servo motors, 4 sensors (2xtouch, color, ultrasonic)
- Software:
 - GUI-based programming software (NI LabVIEW as engine)
 - Third-party languages
 - leJOS: Java
 - RobotC
 - Interactive C
 - Not Quite C (NQC)
 - Not Exactly C (NXC)
 -





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Lego® Mindstorms NXT2.0 Hardware

NXT Intelligent Brick



Servo motors with built-in rotation sensors (3)



Rechargeable lithium battery



Touch



Sound



Ultrasonic



Color



Light



Connector cables



NXT Software



- USB cable
- Charger
- Lego parts
- Wheels
- Gears
- Lamps
-



Lego® Mindstorms NXT: Additional Components

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Acceleration



Compass



Gyro



IR sensor



RFID



Temperature sensor



Bluetooth Dongle





Getting to Know Your NXT

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- **Hardware**

- **Software**

- **Programming**

- **Lego® Mindstorms Challenge**

- **Get to know you NXT robot (30 minutes):**
Follow instructions in LEGO Mindstorms User Guide p16-35 to learn the following features of the NXT:
 - Sensor inputs and motor ports (outputs)
 - On-screen icons and indicators
 - Menu items
 - NXT on-board programs
 - Test sensors and motors
 - View sensor inputs
 - Change settings



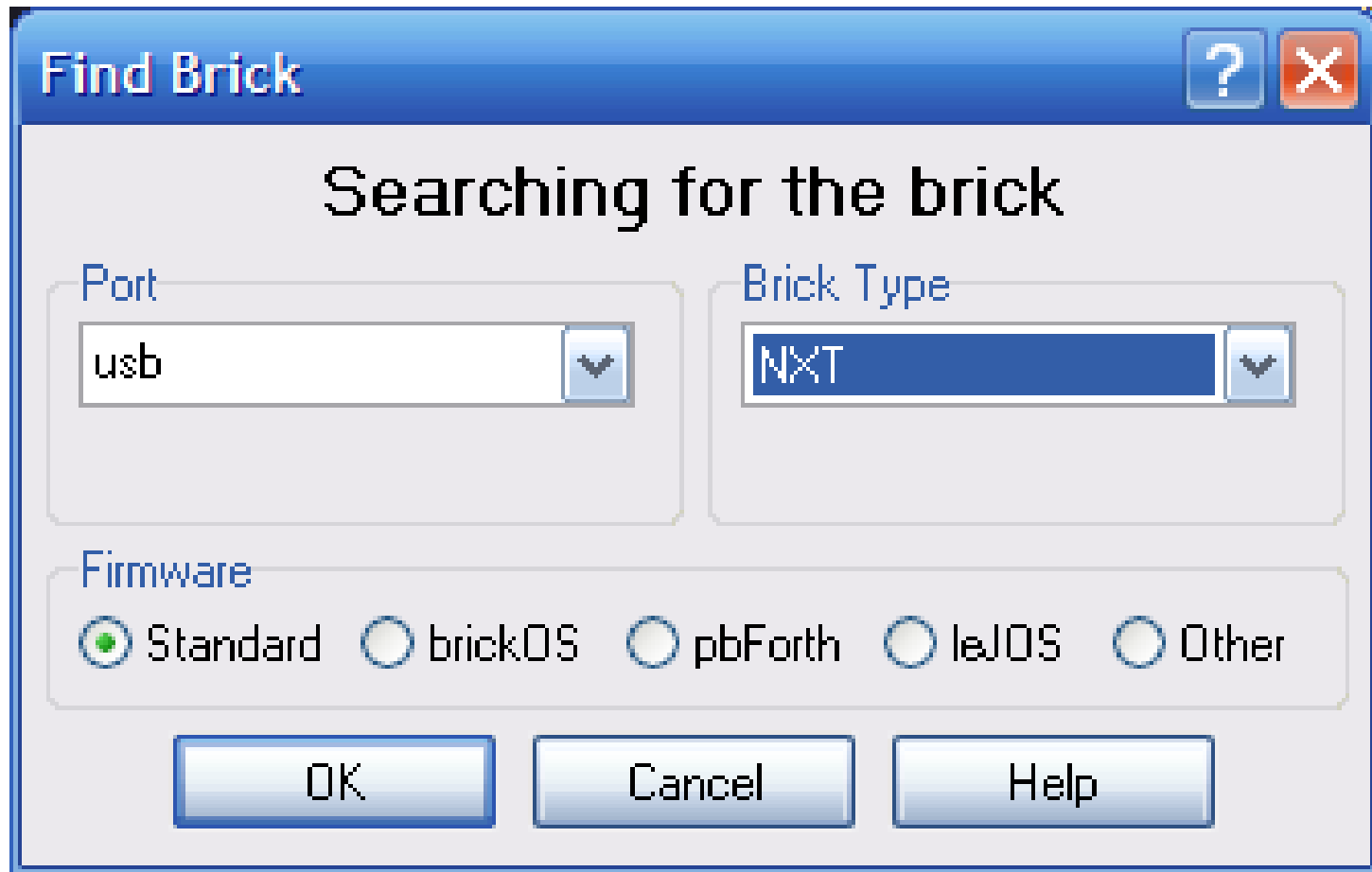


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Software Development Environment

Download BrickCC: <http://bricxcc.sourceforge.net/>
Test release version





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Software Development Environment

Compile

Download

Run

```
task main()
{
  OnFwd(OUT_AC, 75);
  Wait(1000);
  OnRev(OUT_C, 75);
  Wait(500);
  Off(OUT_AC);
}
```

Edit → Preferences → Compiler → Switches: -v=128



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Lego NXT Programming in NXC

1. Basic concepts:
 - tasks, main, API, constants, comments
2. Variables:
 - int, boolean,
 - Array, struct
3. Sensors:
 - Set sensors, read sensor values
 - Low speed sensors
4. Flow structures:
 - while
 - do...while
 - if...else
 - until...
5. Flow chart



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A Simple Example Program

*NXC programs consist of tasks
Each program has to have a main task
The computer executes the main task*

```
task main() ←  
{  
  OnFwd(OUT_A, 75);  
  OnFwd(OUT_C, 75);  
  Wait(4000);  
  OnRev(OUT_AC, 75);  
  Wait(4000);  
  Off(OUT_AC);  
}
```

*A task consists of statements
Each statement must end with ;
Braces include all statements
belong to a task*

Can you guess what these statements do?

onFwd, OnRev, Wait, Off

are NXT built-in functions (part of NXT API)



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A More Sophisticated Version

Define constants
(values cannot be changed in the program)



```
#define MOVE_TIME 1000  
#define TURN_TIME 360
```

```
task main()  
{  
    OnFwd(OUT_AC, 75);  
    Wait(MOVE_TIME); //Both motors drive with 75% power  
    OnRev(OUT_C, 75); //Wait time unit is ms  
    Wait(TURN_TIME); //Reverse motor C with 75% power  
    Off(OUT_AC);  
}
```



Comments

Computer ignores statements following //



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Using Variables

```
Variable declaration: #define TURN_TIME 360
Variable type int move_time;
Variable name

task main()
{
  move_time = 200;
  repeat(50)
  {
    OnFwd(OUT_AC, 75);
    Wait(move_time);
    OnRev(OUT_C, 75);
    Wait(TURN_TIME);
    move_time += 200;
  }
  Off(OUT_AC);
}
```

Variable values can be defined, used, and changed in the program

Same as:
move_time = move_time + 200;

Repeat the statement inside { } 50 times



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Working with Arrays

```
int aaa;  
int bbb, ccc;  
int values[]; ← Array declaration
```

```
task main()  
{  
    aaa = 10;  
    bbb = 20 * 5;  
    ccc = bbb;  
    ccc /= aaa;  
    ccc -= 5;  
    aaa = 10 * (ccc + 3); //  
    ArrayInit(values, 0, 10); ← Array initialization  
    values[0] = aaa;  
    values[1] = bbb;  
    values[2] = aaa*bbb; } Array element value assignment  
    values[3] = ccc; }  
}
```

Note: 1st array element index is 0



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Working with NXT Sensors

- Ways to let NXT know which sensor you are using:
 - `SetSensorTouch(IN_#);`
 - `SetSensorLight(IN_#);`
 - `SetSensorSound(IN_#);`
 - **`SetSensorLowspeed(IN_#);`** //For ultrasonic sensor
 - **`SetSensorColorFull(IN_#);`** //Color sensor
 - `SetSensorColorRed(IN_#);`
 - `SetSensorColorGreen(IN_#);`
 - `SetSensorColorBlue(IN_#);`
- Ways to read sensor values:
 - `SENSOR_port#;` // For touch, light, sound
eg: `SENSOR_1;`
 - **`SensorUS(IN_port#);`** // For ultrasonic
eg: `SensorUS(IN_1);`
 - **`ReadSensorColorRaw(IN_#, int_array);`** //For color
eg: `ReadSensorColorRaw(IN_1, rgb[4]);`



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Color Sensor Representation & Characterization

1. Many formats to digitize color: RGB, CMYK, HSV
2. Example of a 24-bit RGB representation:
 - 8 bits to represent amount of red, green and blue in a color
 - (0,0,0) = Black
 - (255,255,255) = White
 - (255,0,0) = Red
 - (0,255,0) = ?

task main()

```
{ SetSensorColorFull(IN_1);  
  int rgb[4], csr;  
  ReadSensorColorRaw(IN_1, rgb);  
  csr = rgb[INPUT_RED]+rgb[INPUT_GREEN]+rgb[INPUT_BLUE];  
  NumOut (0, LCD_LINE1, rgb[INPUT_RED]);  
  NumOut (0, LCD_LINE2, rgb[INPUT_GREEN]);  
  NumOut (0, LCD_LINE3, rgb[INPUT_BLUE]);  
  NumOut (0, LCD_LINE4, csr);  
}
```

← Displays the value of variable
on designated location of the NXT screen



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Control Structure: while loop

```
while (condition) // condition outcome can be true or false
{ statements; // Statements are executed if condition is true
}
```

task main()

```
{ SetSensorTouch(IN_1);
while (SENSOR_1 == 0)
{ OnFwd(OUT_AB, 75);
  Wait(1000);
}
}
```

Relational operators:

==	equal to
<	smaller than
<=	smaller than or equal to
>	larger than
>=	larger than or equal to
!=	not equal to

task main()

```
{ SetSensorTouch(IN_1);
  int counter = 0;
while (SENSOR_1 == 0 && counter < 10)
{ OnFwd(OUT_AB, 75);
  Wait(1000);
  counter = counter + 1;
}
}
```

Logical operators:

&& (and) || (or)



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Control Structure: do ... while loop

```
task main()
{
  int counter = 0;
  do
  {
    OnFwd(OUT_AB, 75);
    Wait(1000);
    counter = counter + 1;
  } while (counter < 10)
}
```

What is the difference between these two programs?

```
task main()
{
  int counter = 0;
  while (counter < 10)
  {
    OnFwd(OUT_AB, 75);
    Wait(1000);
    counter = counter + 1;
  }
}
```



Control Structure: until

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```
task main()
```

```
{ SetSensorTouch(IN_1);
```

```
  OnFwd(OUT_AB, 75);
```

```
  until (SENSOR_1 == 1);
```

```
  Off (OUT_AB);
```

```
}
```



Program will wait here
until the condition is true



Control Structure: if ... else ...

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```
task main()
{
  SetSensorTouch(IN_1);
  while (true)
  {
    if (SENSOR_1 == 0)
    {
      OnFwd(OUT_AB, 75);
      Wait (1000);
    }
    else
    {
      OnRev(OUT_AB, 75);
      Wait (1000);
    }
  }
}
```

Condition

true

false



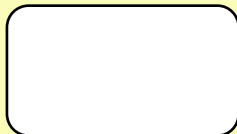
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What Is A Flowchart?

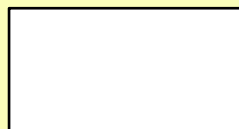
- A diagram that represents an algorithm or process, showing the steps, order of execution, and data flow.
- Gives step-by-step solution to solving a problem.
- Used in many fields to analyze/design/document/manage process & programs.

Basic flowchart symbols

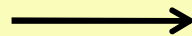
Start/End



Processing steps



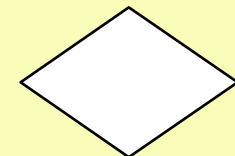
Flow



Input/Output



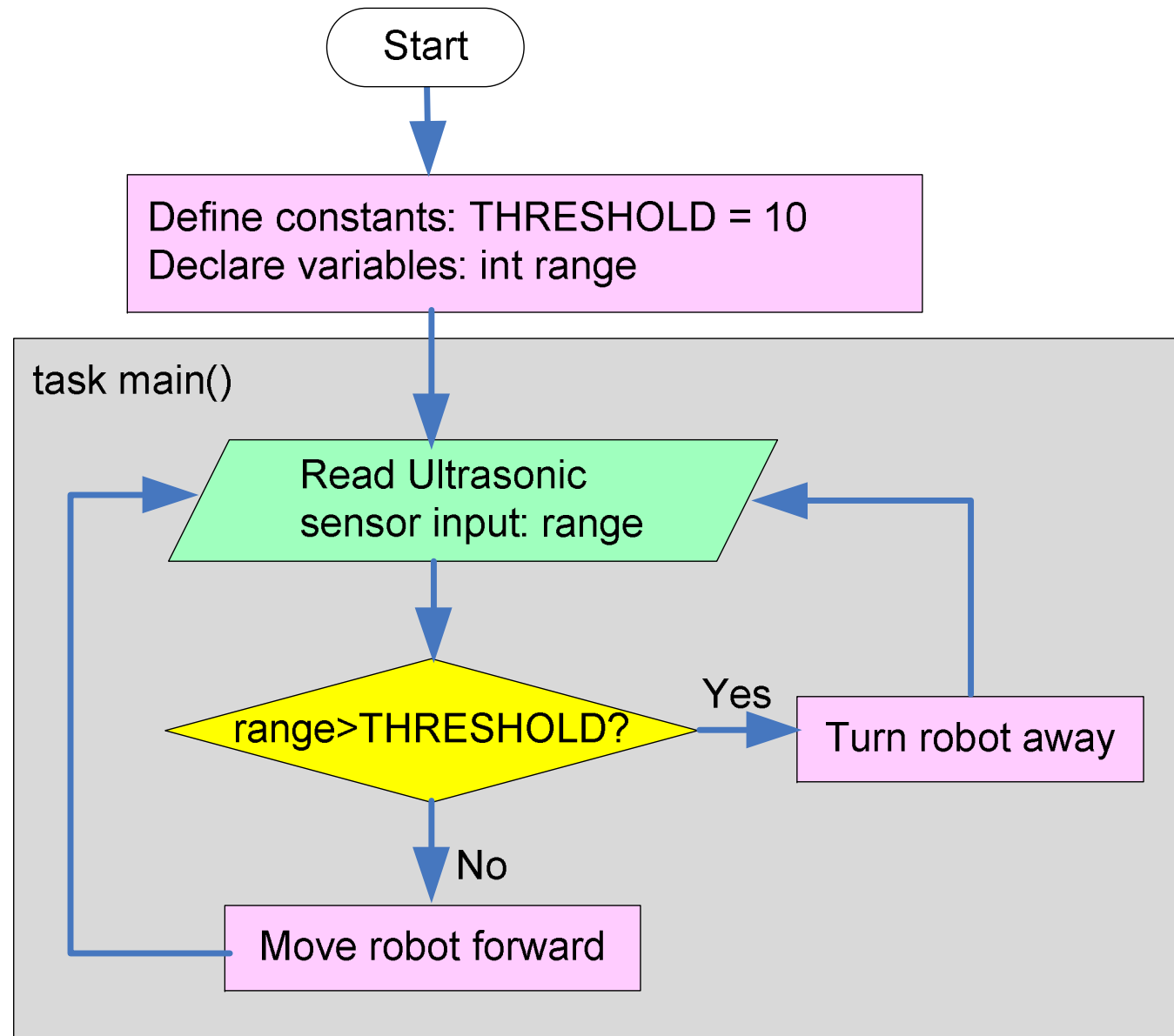
Decision





An Example Flow Chart: Obstacle Avoidance

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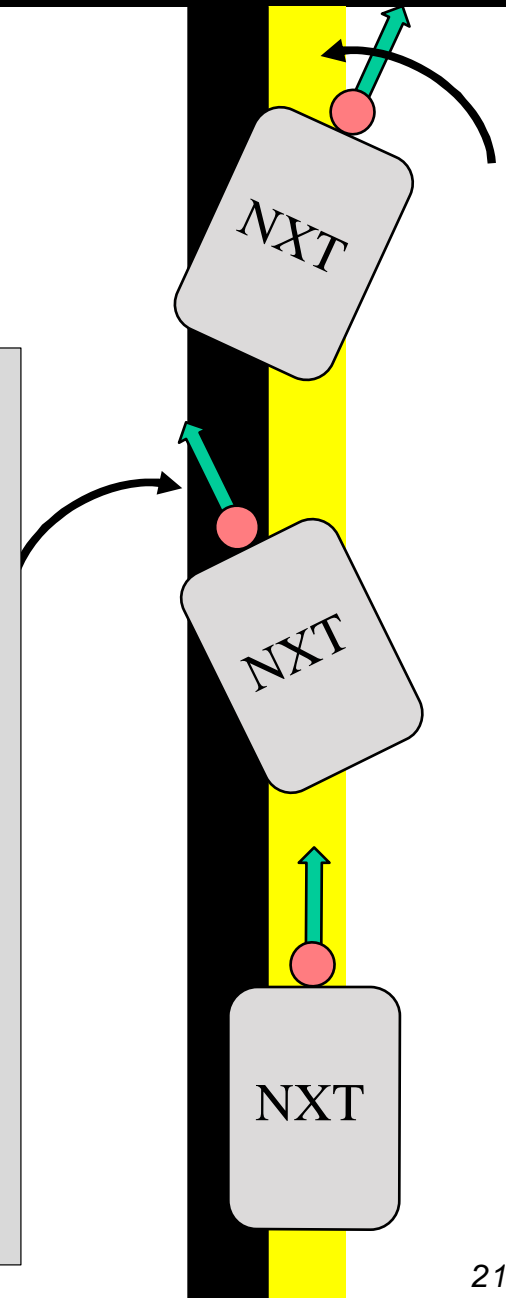
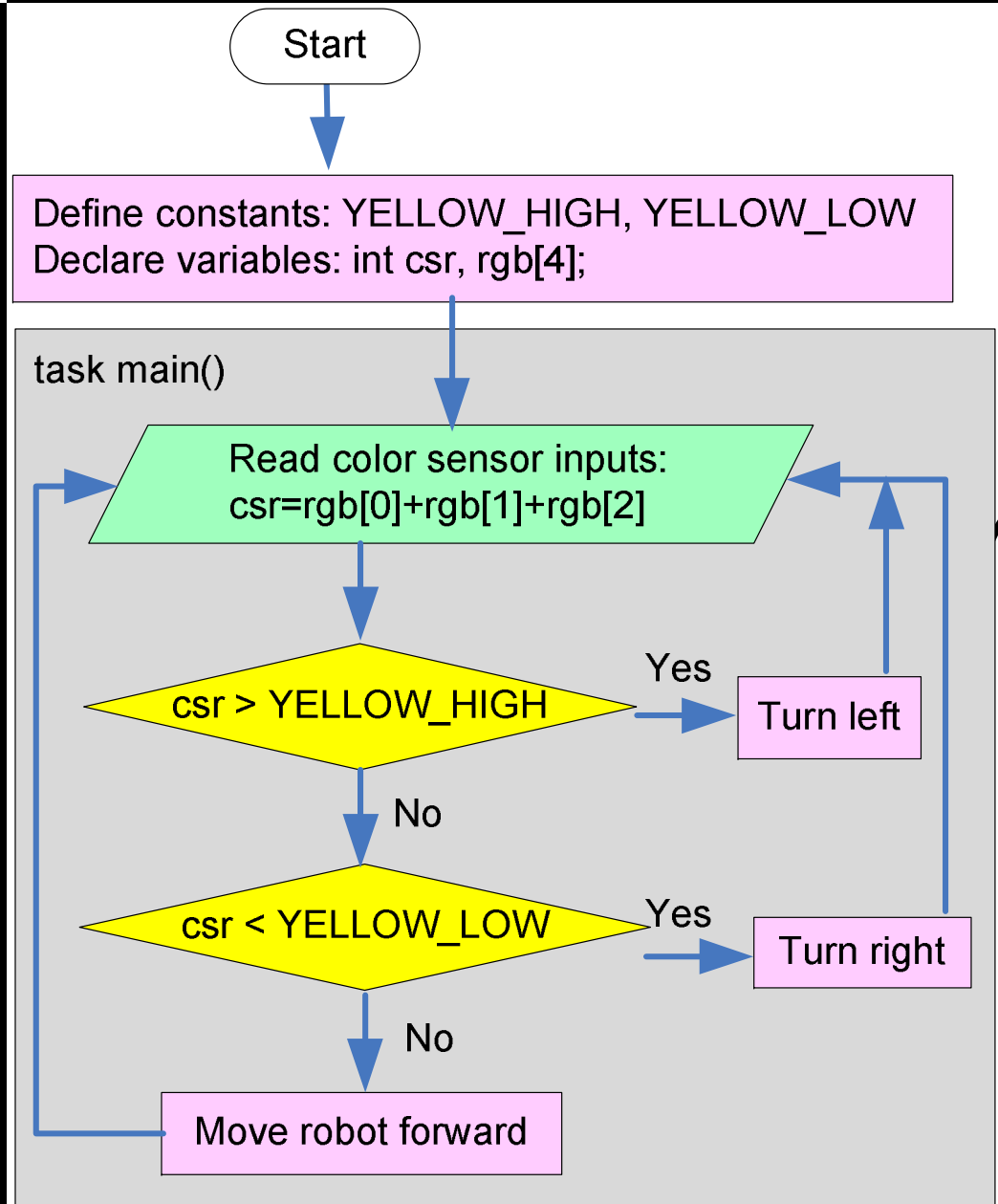




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An Example Flow Chart: Line Following





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Challenge 1: Build A Tri-Pot

Follow the 14-step instructions at:

http://www.nxtprograms.com/NXT2/3-motor_chassis/steps.html
to build Dave Parker's 3 Motor Chassis (30 minutes)





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Programming Challenges

- Obstacle avoidance
 - Follow the flow chart shown in slide #20, use an ultrasonic sensor to sense obstacles and avoid them
- Color sensor calibration
 - Follow the example shown in slide #14 to determine a safe upper value (YELLOW_HIGH) and lower csr value (YELLOW_LOW) for the yellow color tape provided to you.
- Color line follower
 - Follow the flow chart shown in slide #21 and yellow color upper and lower limit determined above to program a yellow line follower



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Additional References

- An easy to follow tutorial at http://bricxcc.sourceforge.net/nbc/nxcdoc/NXC_tutorial.pdf
- A comprehensive NXC guide at: http://bricxcc.sourceforge.net/nbc/nxcdoc/NXC_Guide.pdf.

