

Mechanical Components and Programming

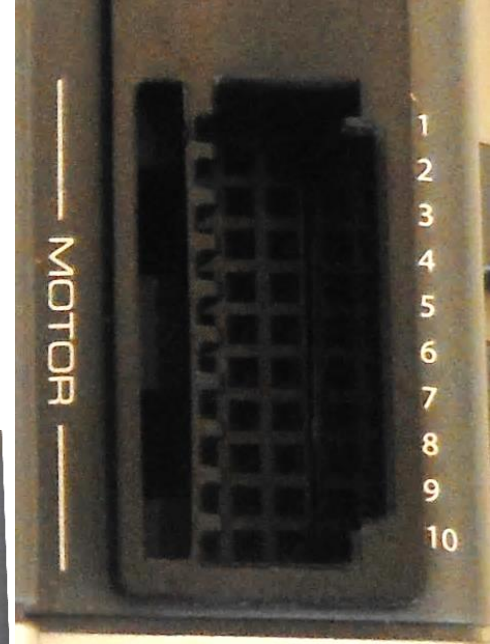


7.2 V, 3000 mAh battery pack and charger



Controller (Cortex)

Motor and Servo ports



8 analog and 12 digital ports. Digital ports are used for Limit, Bumper and Ultrasonic sensors



Side view of the VEX Controller



On/Off switch

Backup Batter Port
(not available)

Batter Ports

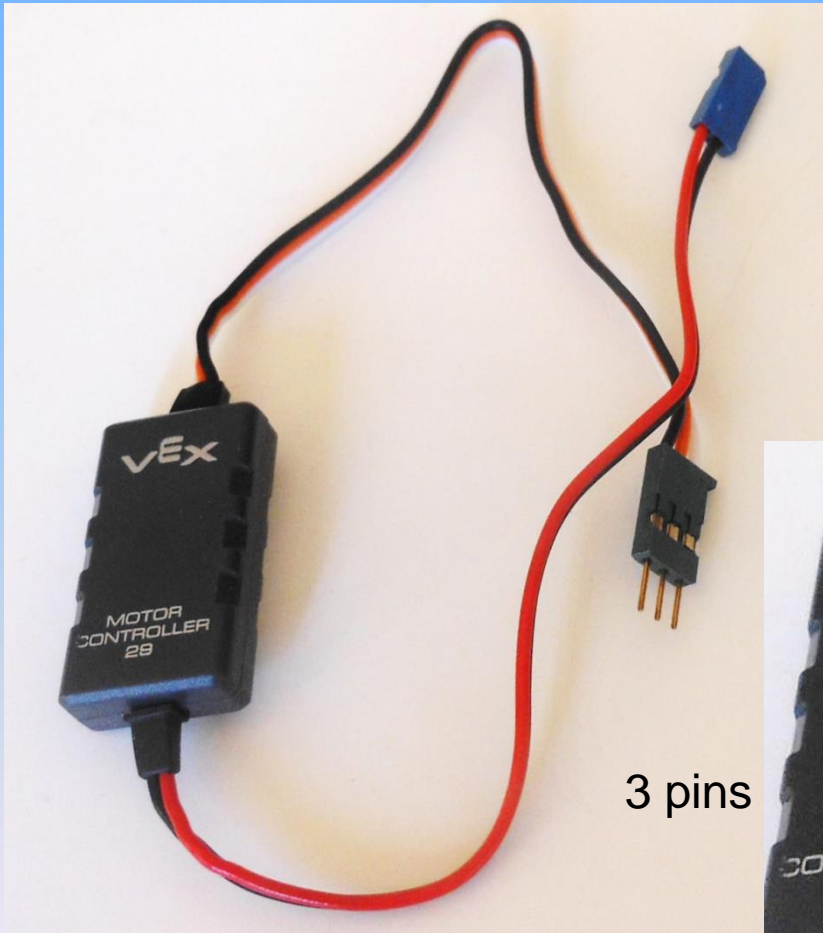
Orange cable (USB connections at both ends) used to download programs from computer to the controller



Battery connection

Mechanical Components – Motor (Cortex)

The new robot kit includes three 2-wire motors that can be converted to a 3-wire motor using the controller 29. Ports 1 and 10 on the new controller are designated for 2-wire motors only.



3 pins



2 pins

Servo and Clutch

Servo are used to control the rotation of a shaft (controls the motion of the robot arm). Make sure the clutch module is always used. It prevents damage to the motor in case of large torque.



VEX Sensors



Limit Switch Sensor



Ultrasonic Sensor



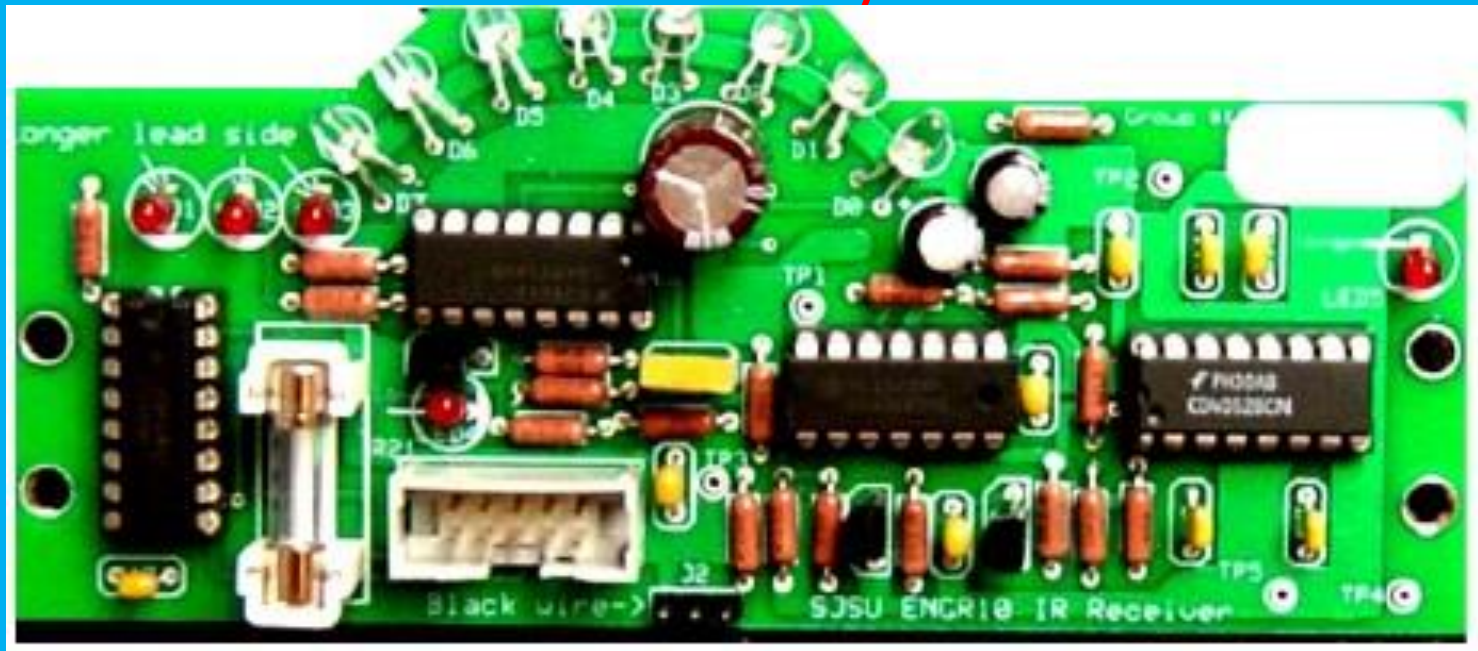
Bumper Switch Sensor

Ken Youssefi

Attach all digital sensors to 1-12 ports in Digital section



8 Detectors, cover a field of view of 100°



Infrared Receiver Board (IRB), the eyes of the robot.

Do's and Don't's

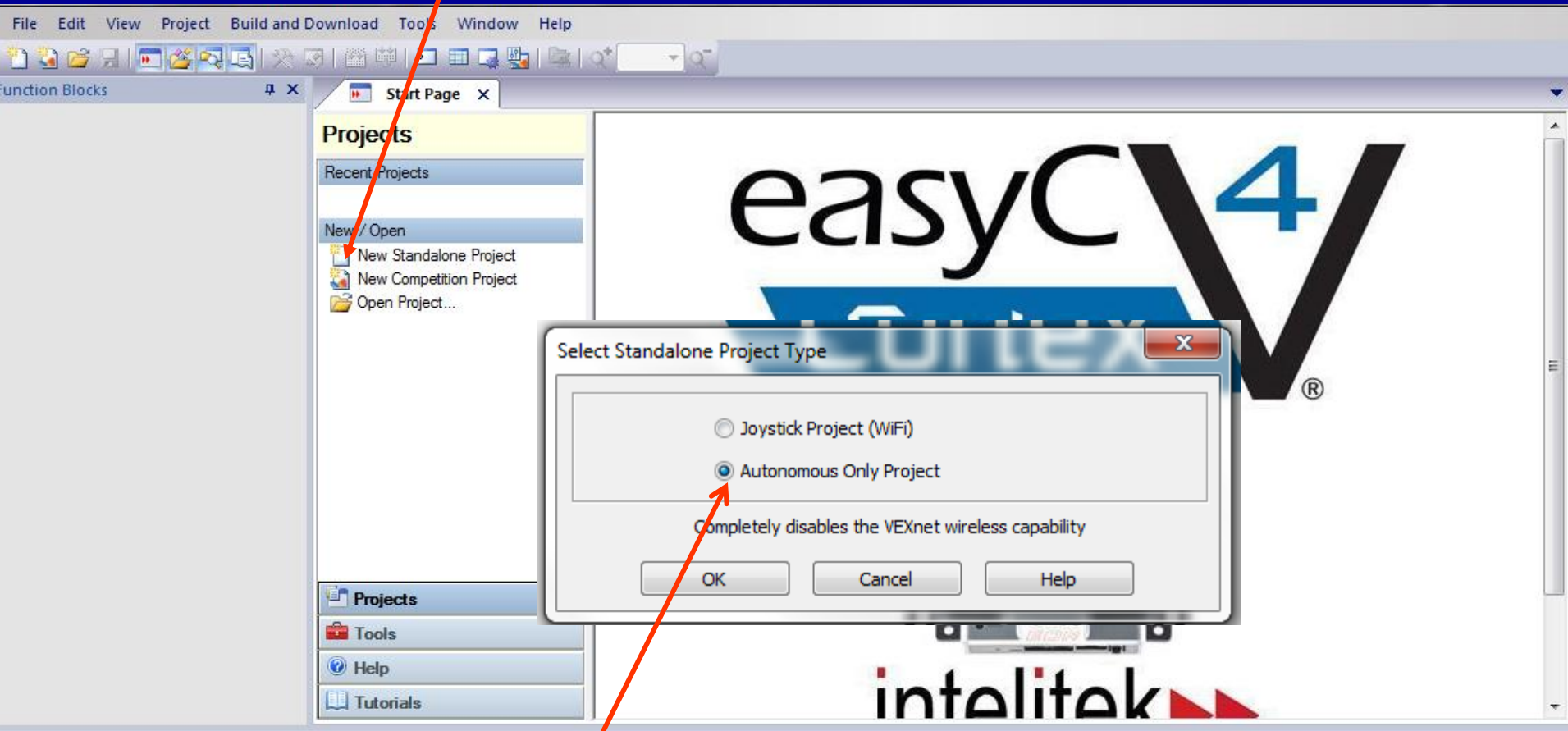
- Make sure the battery is charged.
- Do not place the VEX manual in your box, leave it on the table.
- Do not tamper with other group's robot. Do not leave your box on the table, store it on top of the work bench that includes your box number.
- Clean up before leaving
- There are two size of allen wrenches used for tightening screws. Leave the allen wrenches on the table for all to share.

Design Considerations

- The best design is the simplest design. Make your robot using the fewest number of parts.
- Plan ahead the location of the major components (controller, battery, electronic board, the arm, sensors)
The electronic board should be in the front and the white LEDs should have an unobstructed view of the beacon. The height of the LEDs should be roughly the same as the ones in the beacon.
- The electronic board should be ***insulated*** from the metal parts of the robot. Otherwise the IRB will be shorted
- You will have to plug and unplug components from the controller, leave space so the top of controller is readily accessible.

EasyCortex

Select New Standalone Project



Choose Autonomous Only Project

From Window option select the Block & C Programming option to view the code

The screenshot shows the 'easyC V4 for Cortex - Autonomous Only Project - Untitled' application window. The 'Window' menu is open, highlighting 'Block & C Programming'. The interface is divided into three main sections:

- Function blocks:** A sidebar on the left containing categories like Program Flow, Inputs, Outputs, Integrated Motor Encoders, LCD, Battery, Mathematics, Smart Tasks, and User Functions.
- Flow chart:** A central workspace showing a sequence of blocks: Config, Globals, BEGII (with 'void main (void)' and '{' next to it), Variables, and EIID (with '}' next to it).
- Program code:** A text editor on the right showing the following code:

```
1 #include "Main.h"
2
3 void main ( void )
4 {
5 }
```

Function blocks

Flow chart

Program code

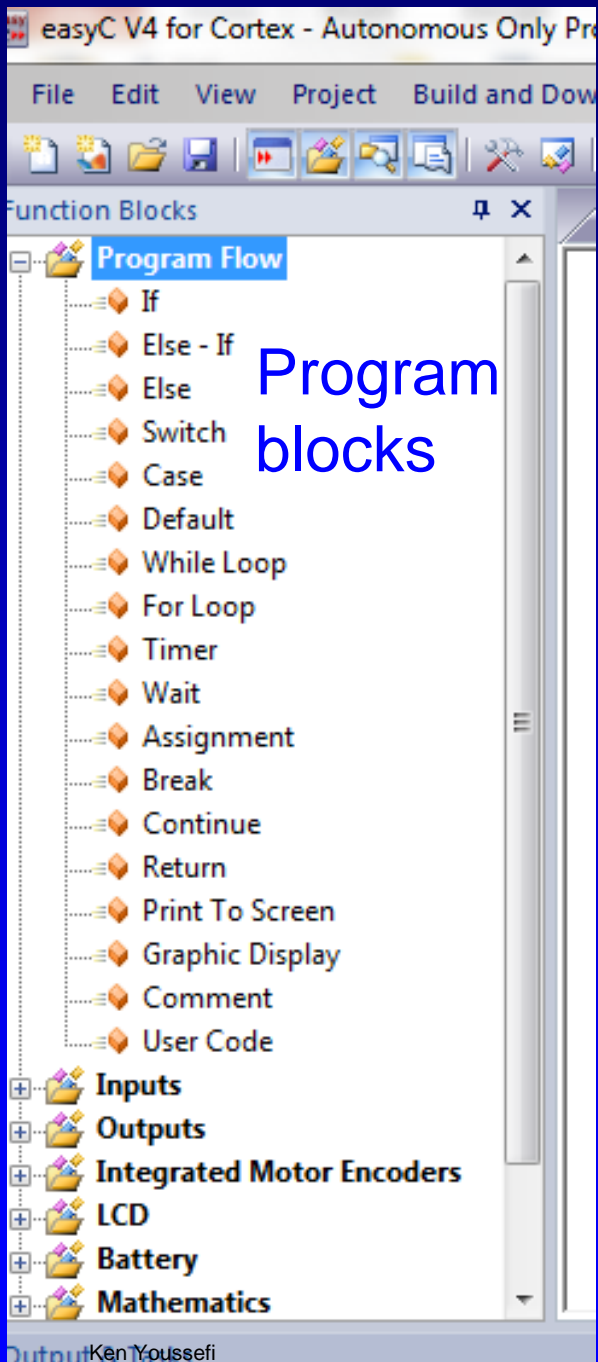
EasyCortex Layout

The screenshot displays the EasyCortex V4 software interface for a Joystick Project (WiFi). The interface is divided into several sections:

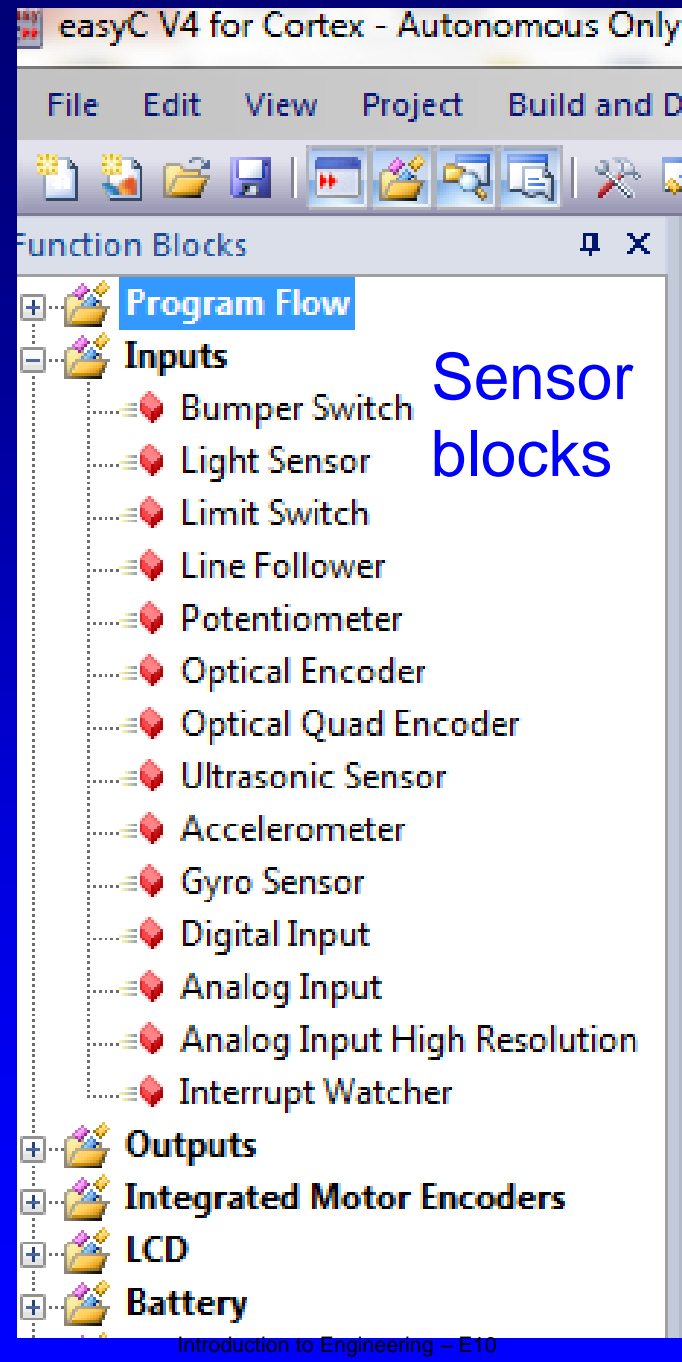
- Function Blocks:** A sidebar on the left lists various blocks such as Program Flow, Inputs, Outputs, Integrated Motor Encoders, Joystick, LCD, Battery, Mathematics, Smart Tasks, and User Functions.
- Flow chart window:** The central workspace shows a vertical flowchart with blocks: Config, Globals, BEGIN, Variables, and END. A 'SetMotor' block is highlighted with a dashed red border and a red arrow pointing to it. The text "Your program is inserted here" is overlaid on the flowchart.
- Code window:** On the right, a code editor shows the following code:

```
1 #include "Main.h"
2
3 void main ( void )
4 {
5   SetMotor ( 1 , 127 ) ;
6 }
```

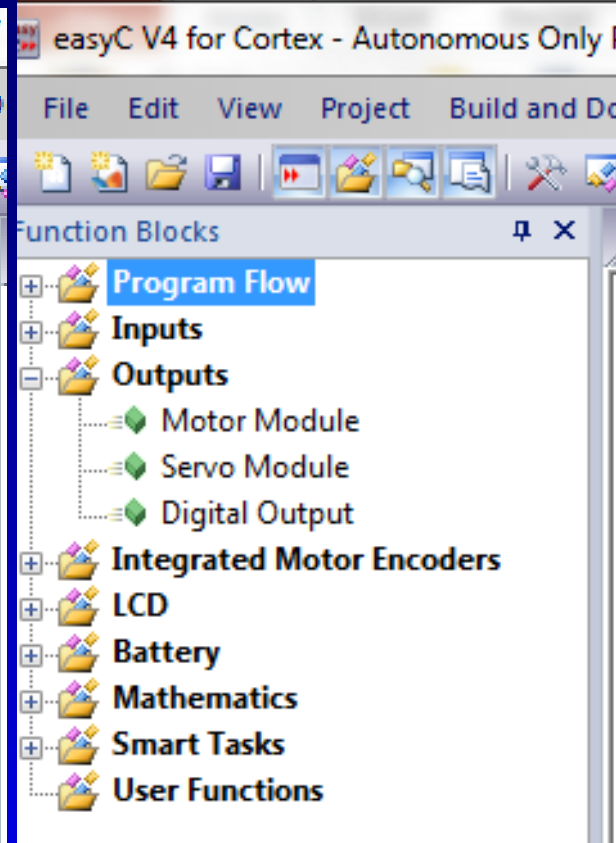
The line "SetMotor (1 , 127) ;" is highlighted in blue. The text "Program code window" is overlaid on the code editor.
- Annotations:** The text "Drag and Drop program window" is located below the flowchart window.



Program blocks



Sensor blocks

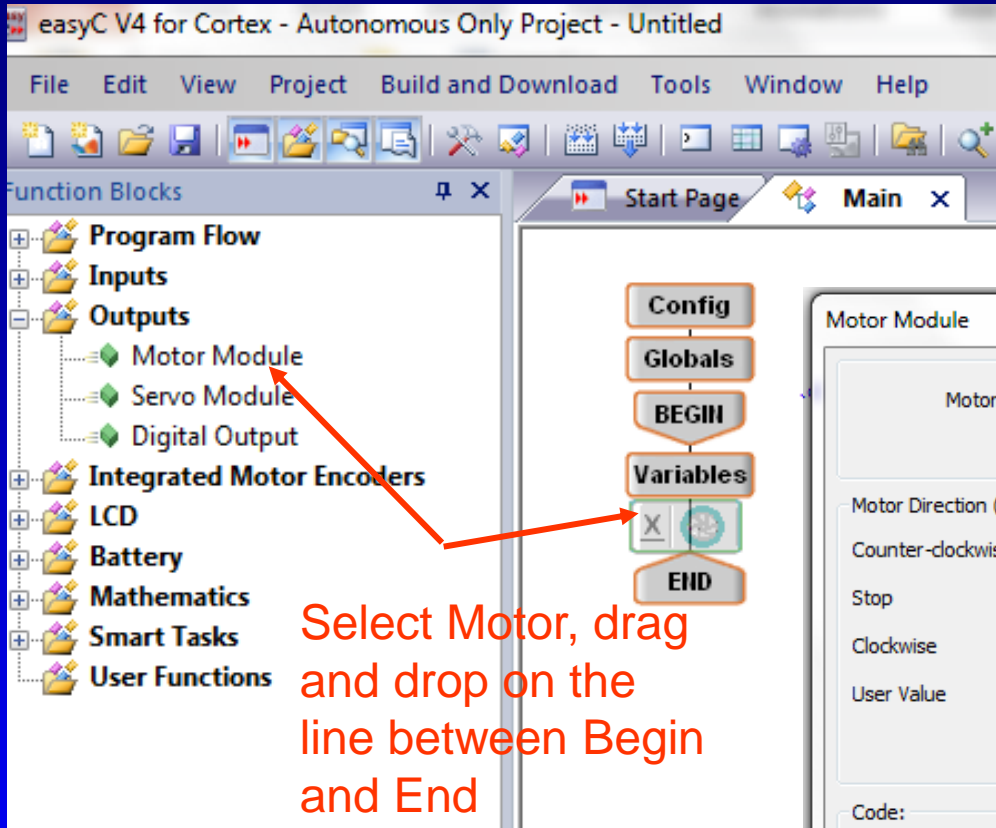


Outputs options

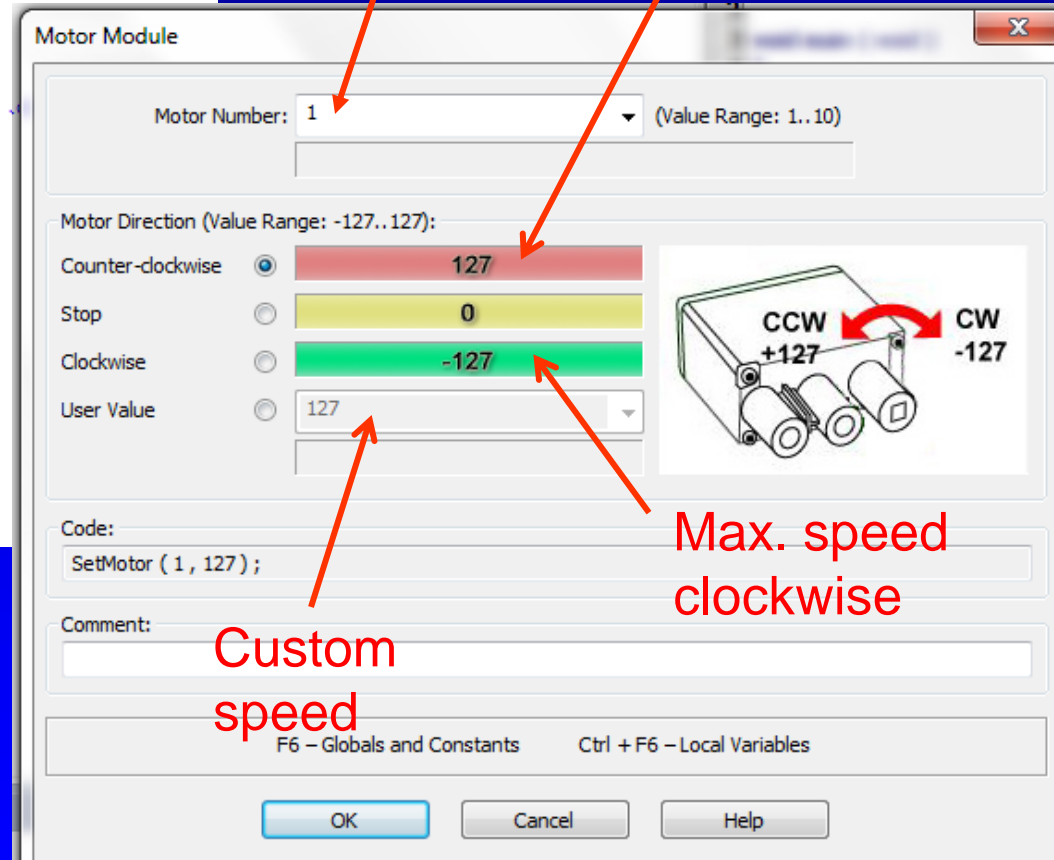
Adding Continuous motor

Enter motor number, as connected to the Controller motor port

Max. speed counterclockwise



Select Motor, drag and drop on the line between Begin and End



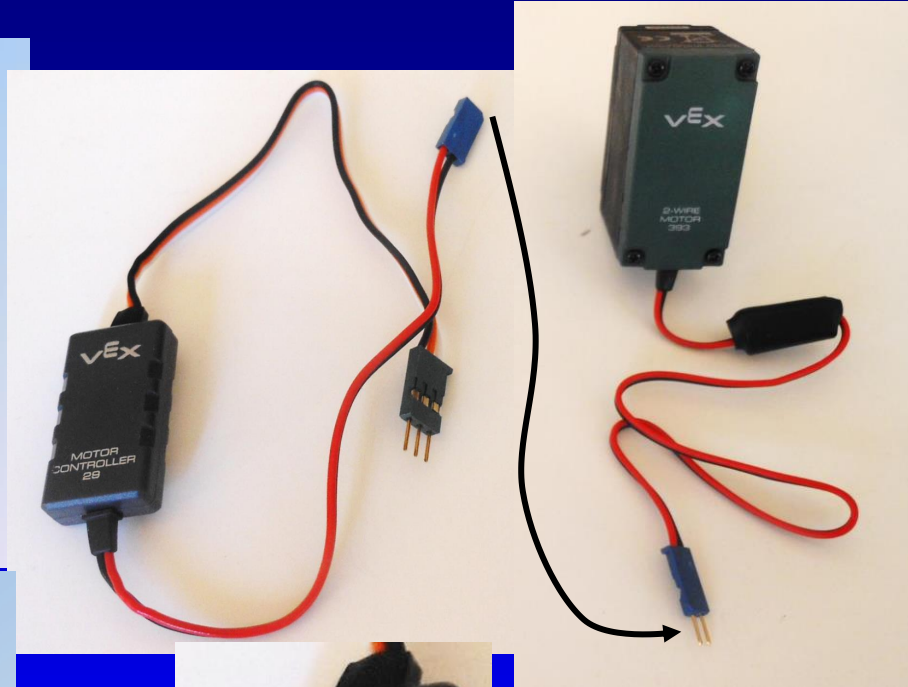
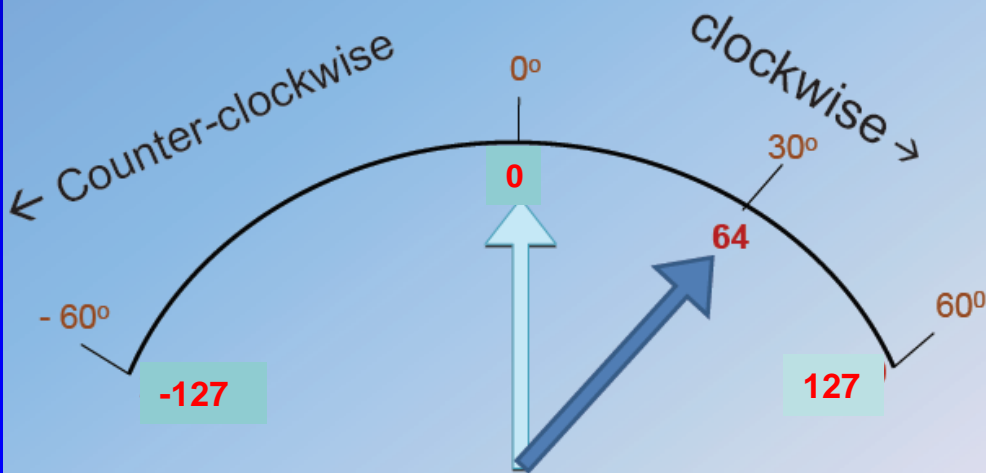
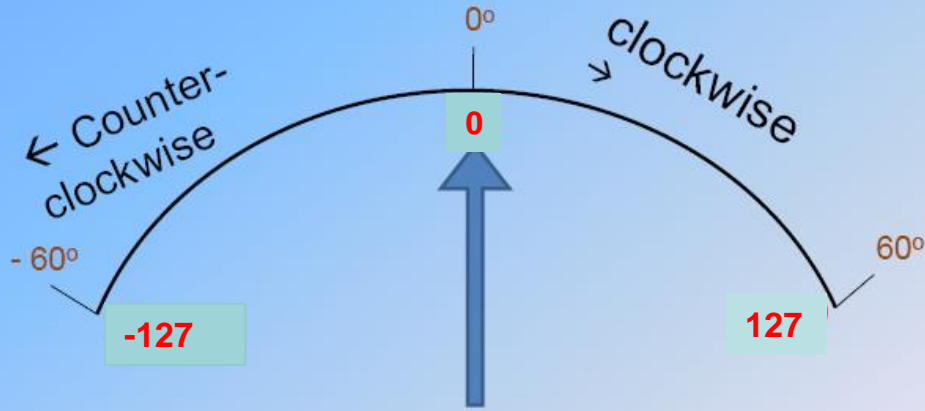
Custom speed

Max. speed clockwise

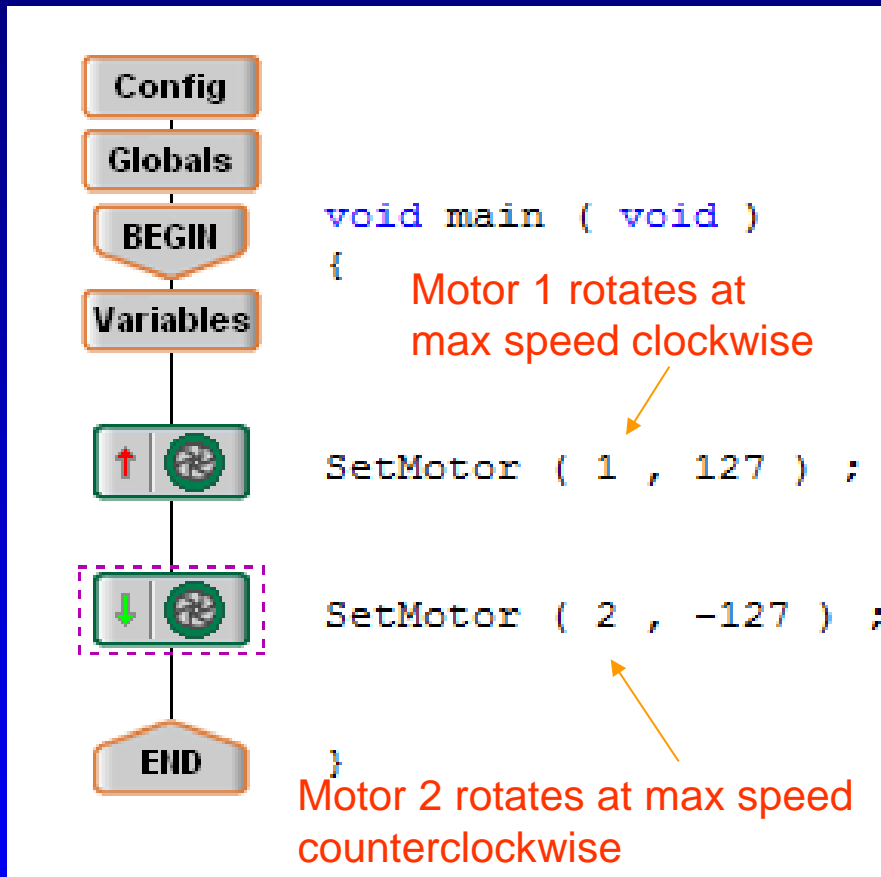
Servo motor

Servos control the position of the motor shaft, angle of rotation

Connect the Motor Controller 29 to the 2-wire Motor. This converts a 2-wire motor to a 3-wire servo. **Connect Red to Red wire**



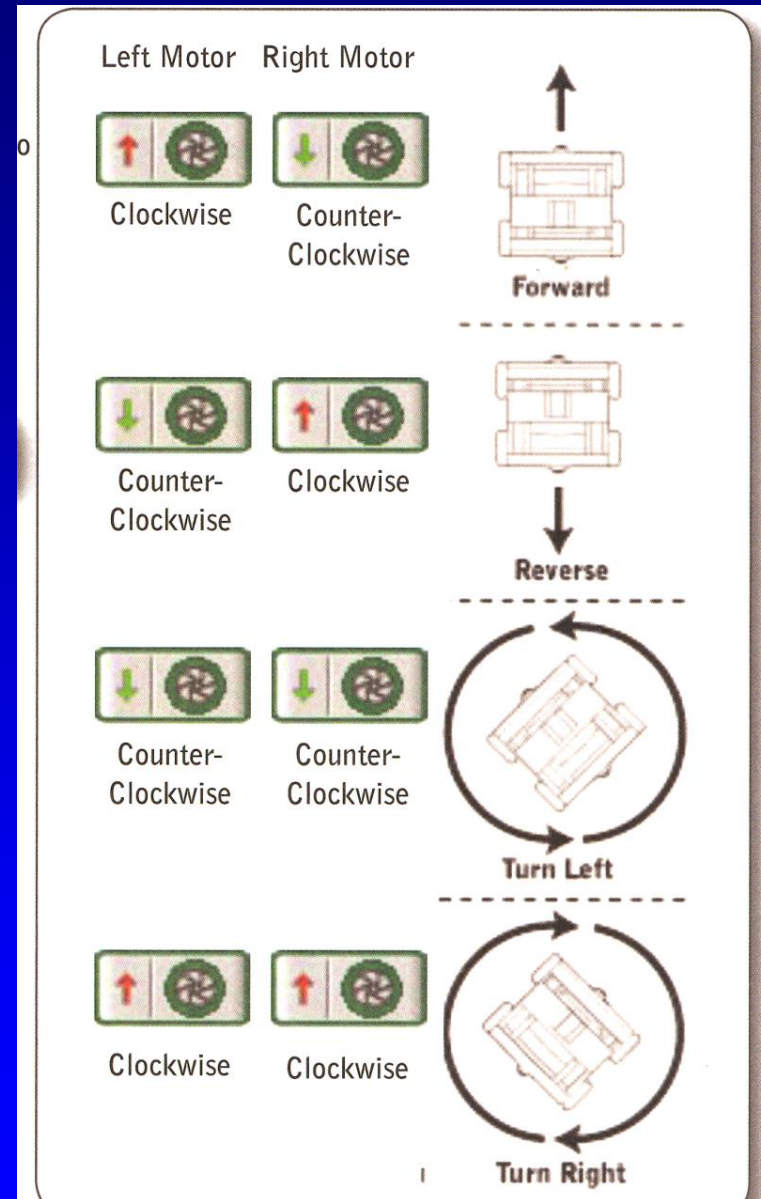
Robot moving forward

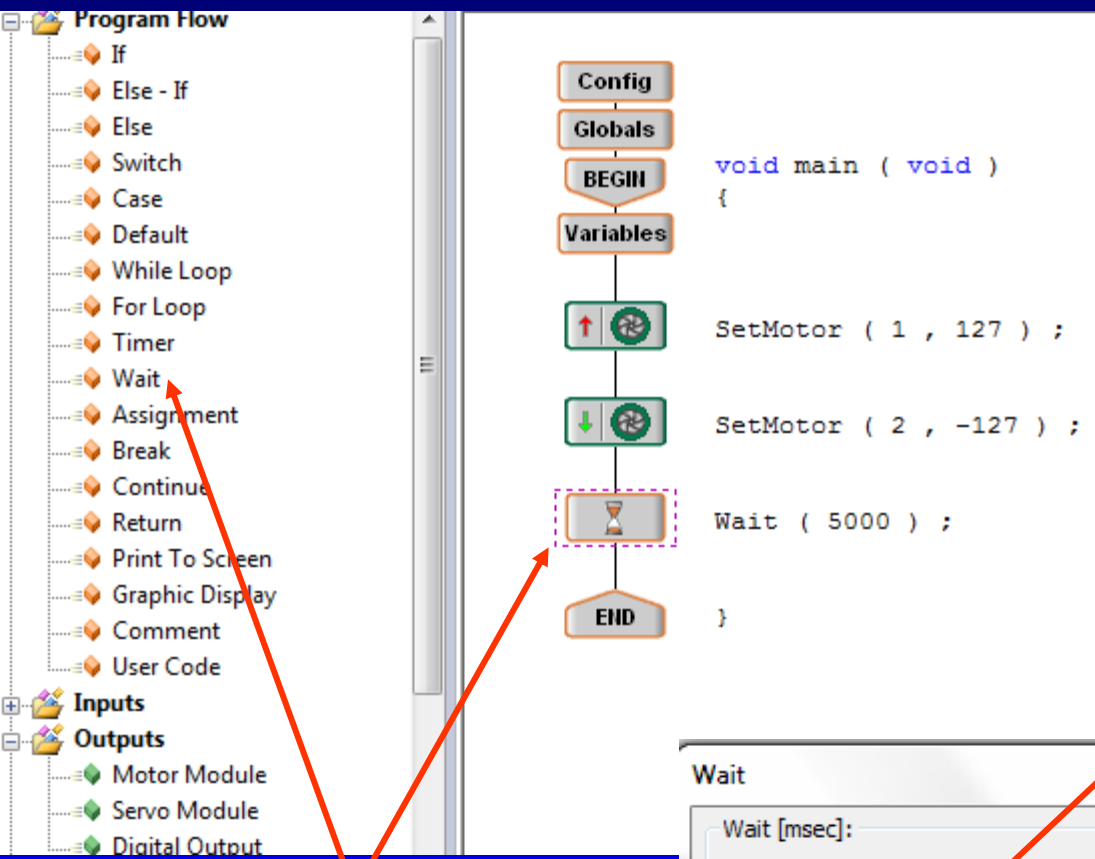


The diagram shows a sequence of blocks: Config, Globals, BEGIN, Variables, a motor control block with a red arrow pointing up and a clockwise rotation icon, another motor control block with a green arrow pointing down and a counter-clockwise rotation icon (highlighted with a dashed purple box), and END.

```
void main ( void )  
{  
    Motor 1 rotates at  
    max speed clockwise  
  
    SetMotor ( 1 , 127 ) ;  
  
    SetMotor ( 2 , -127 ) ;  
  
    Motor 2 rotates at max speed  
    counterclockwise  
}
```

Robot moves forward
at high speed





Enter time in millisecond
(5000 msec)

Wait

Wait [msec]:

Wait ();

Add Variable: Add Operator:

Code:

Comment:

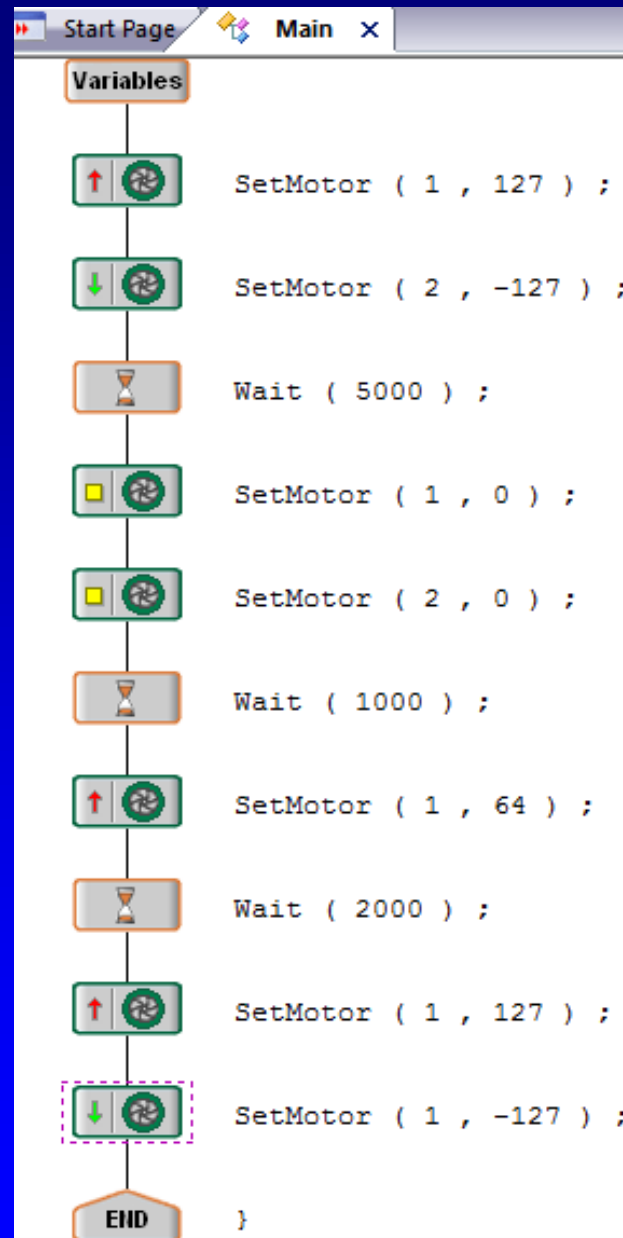
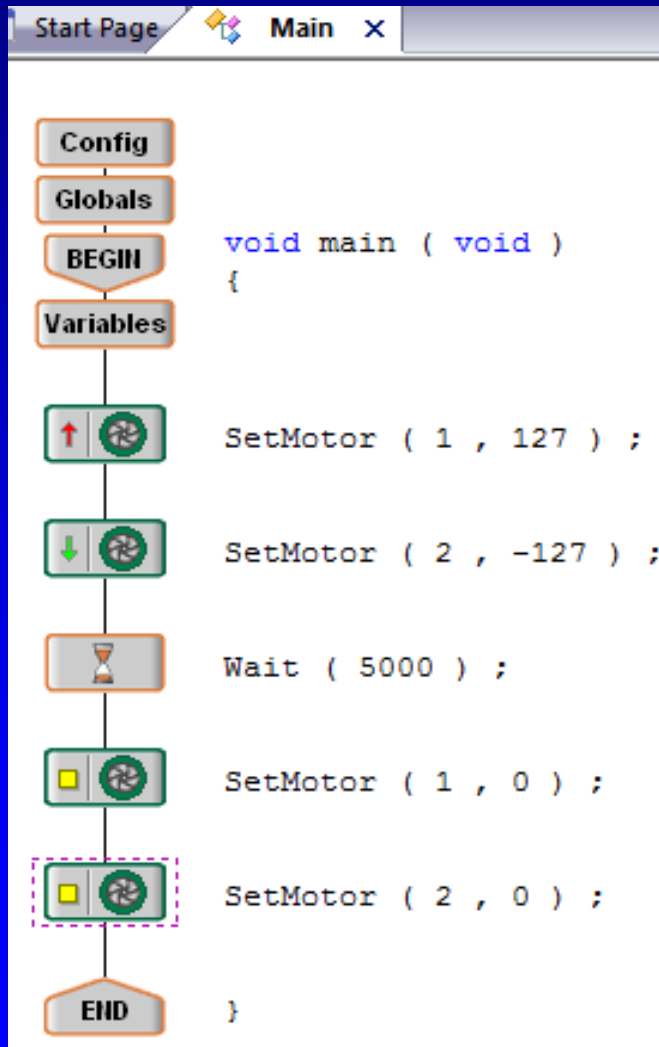
F6 – Globals and Constants Ctrl + F6 – Local Variables

Introduction to Engineering – E10

OK Cancel Help

The Wait function

Robot goes forward at top speed for 5 seconds and then stops



Robot goes forward at top speed for 5 seconds and then stops. It waits 1 second and then it turns right at half speed for 2 seconds and goes forward.

Objective

Write a program so that the robot, upon encountering any obstacle, would back up, turn and continue.

Define all sensors: Limit and Bumper switches on the right and left side of the robot. Right click on the Variable and Edit the Block

The screenshot shows a programming environment with a 'Local Variables' dialog box open. The dialog box has a table with the following data:

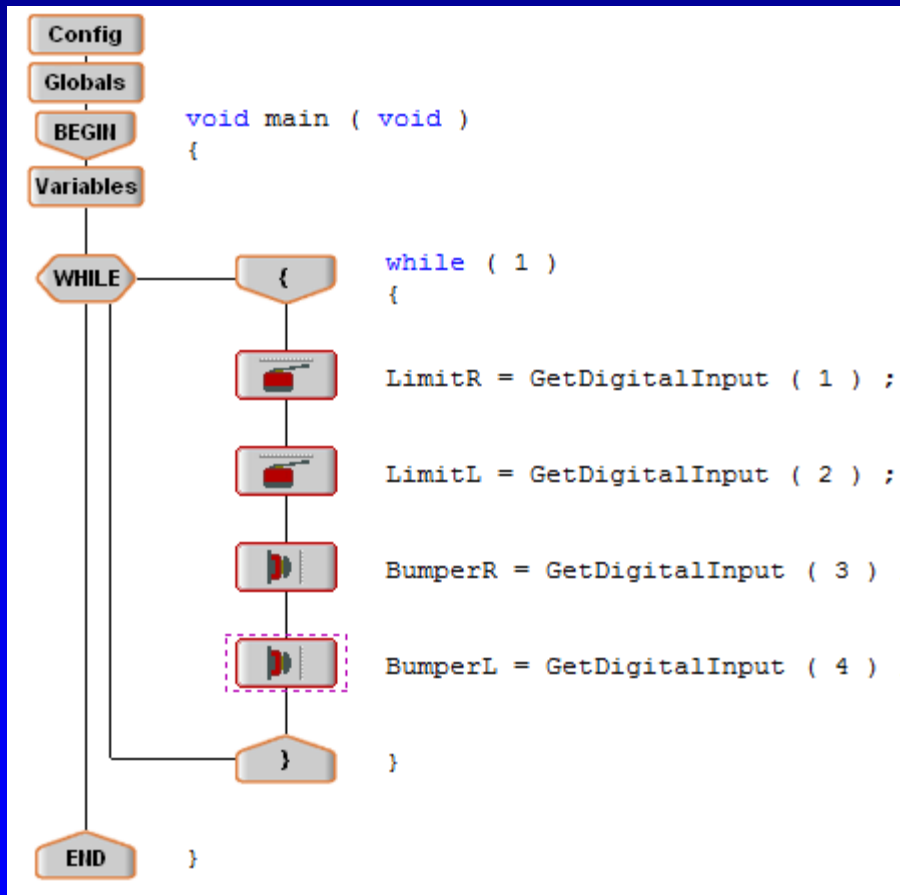
#	Type	Name	Value	Comment
1	int	LimitR		
2	int	LimitL		
3	int	BumperR		
4	int	BumperL		
>>				

The background code editor shows the following code:

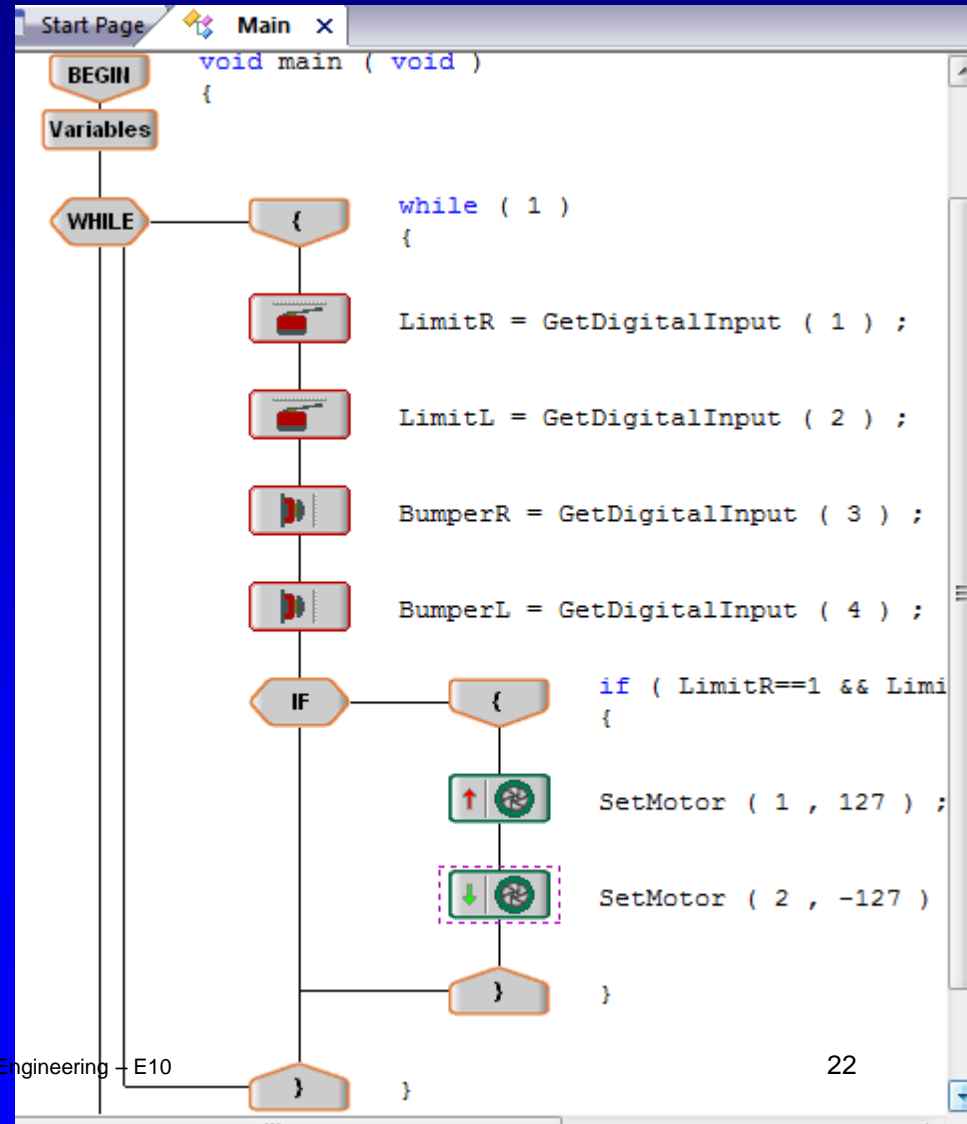
```
2  
3 void main ( void )  
4 {  
5   int LimitR;  
6   int LimitL;  
7   int BumperR;  
8   int BumperL;
```

Inside a While Loop, drag and drop all sensors

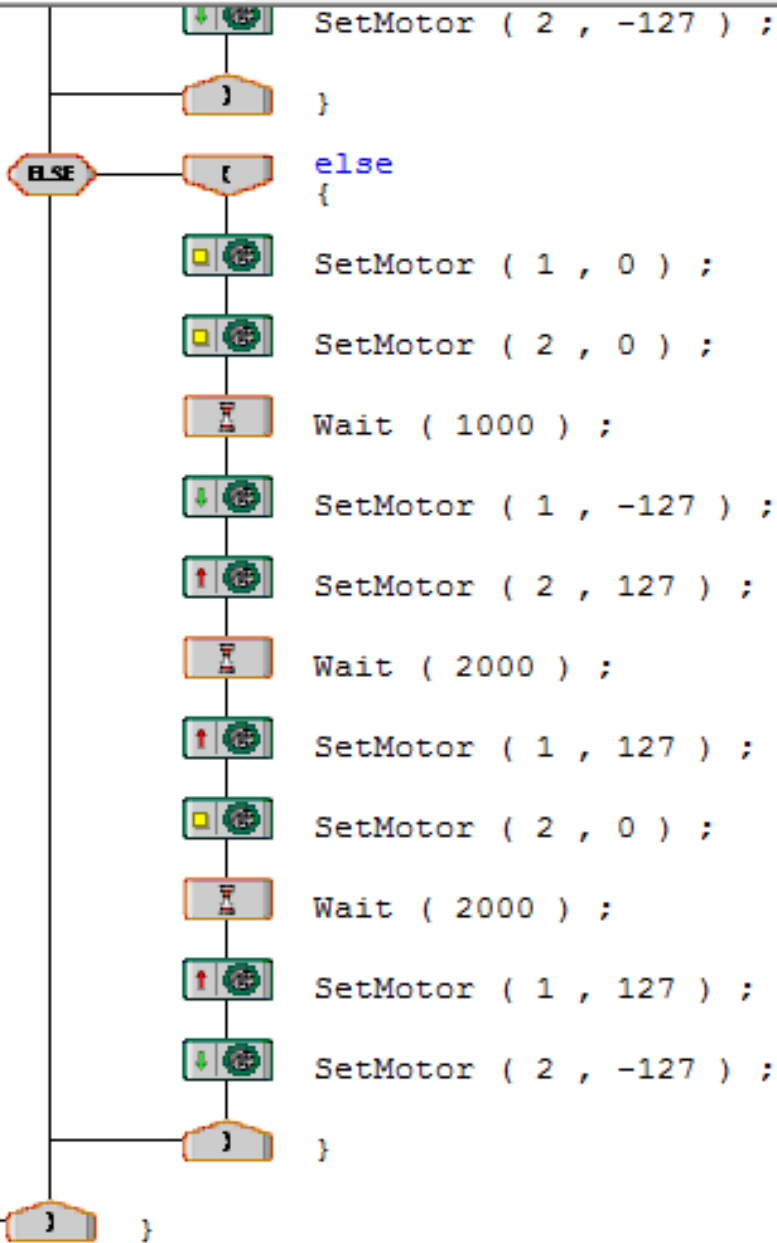
Initializing and scanning the sensors



Add an **IF** statement to check if the sensors have been activated or not (robot has hit an obstacle or not)



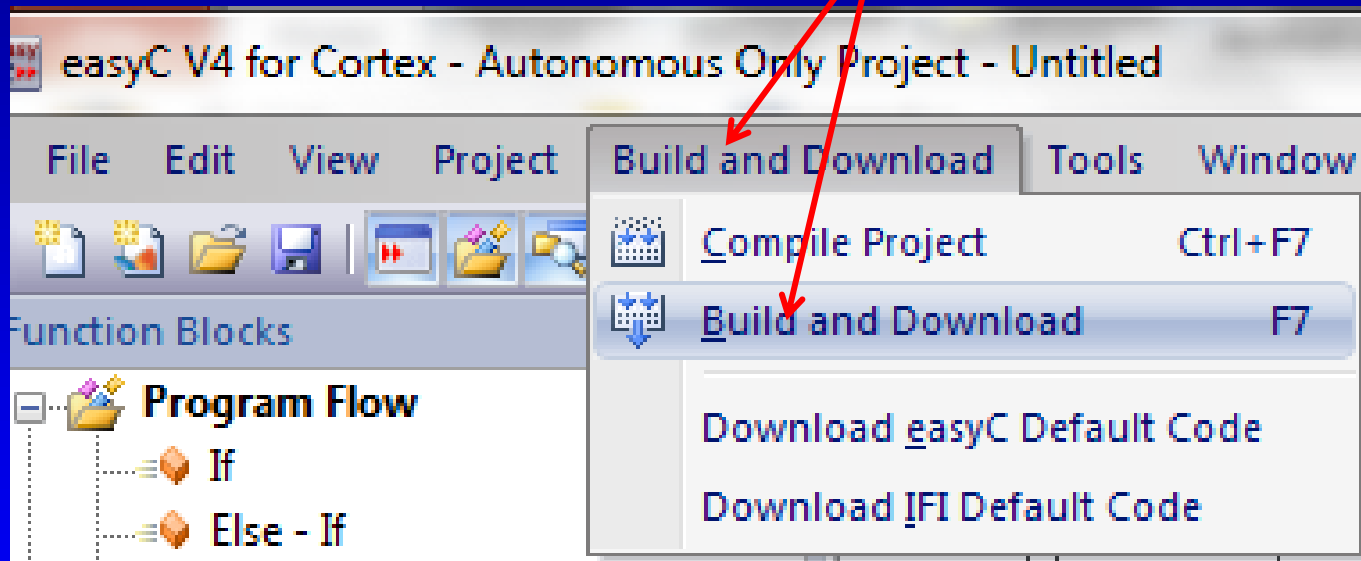
ELSE → one of the sensors is activated (o)



- Stop both motors for 1 second
- Back up for 2 seconds
- Turn for 2 seconds
- Go forward

Downloading the Program to the Controller

Connect the PC to the Controller using the USB orange cord. Select **Build and Download** option.



Follow the on screen instructions. Check for compilation errors in the Program Code section.