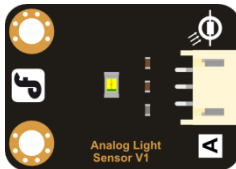


Pirate Ship – Light Intensity Monitoring

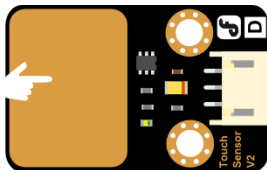
Light sensors are probably one of the most common sensors in life. A light sensor measures the level of light in a room or ambient light in a space. This analog light sensor uses LX1972 as its ambient light sensing part, with spectral response that closely emulates human eyes. It's very suitable for our pirate. Here, we take it to detect the light intensity. Of course, you can use it to make more funny project. For example, the robot will make a move in the daytime, and then it will hide in the corner at night.

Hardware components

- LX1972 Light Sensor × 1



- Digital Touch Sensor × 1



- I2C LCD1602 LCD Screen × 1



- M3*6MM Nylon columns and tie-wraps



Assembly Directions

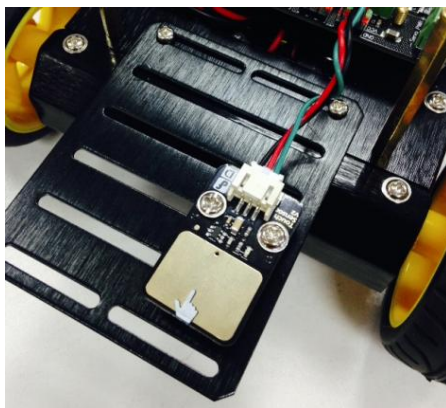
Now as we have all the components prepared, let's start assembling. It's quite easy. Just follow me and have fun.

STEP 1: Add the touch sensor to the car

There are two holes for the Nylon columns in the touch sensor. Fix the Nylon columns on the sensor. And I know some of you just cannot help twisting the column like an OCD. I totally get that. But I would still like to remind you not to **over-twist those columns**.

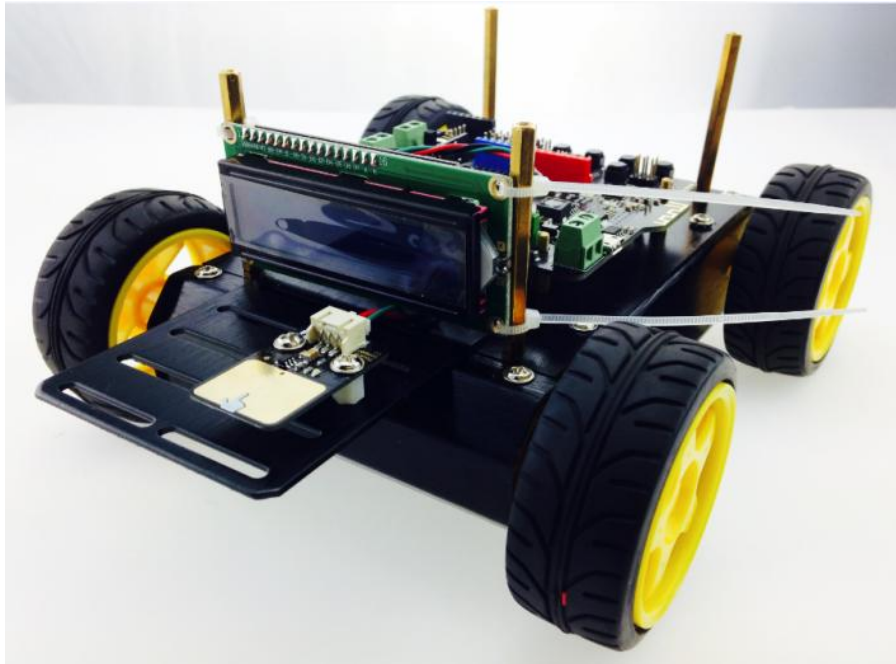


Once completed, attach the touch sensor to the sensor plate located at the fore end of the bodywork just as it is shown in the picture below.



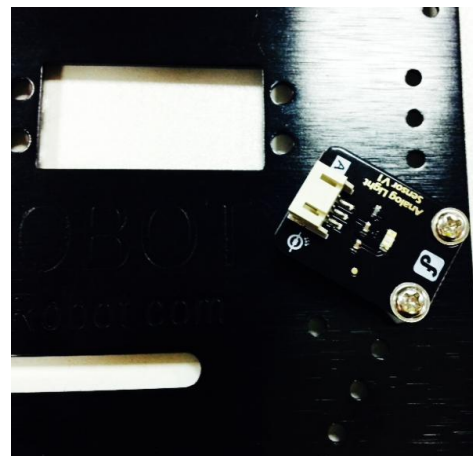
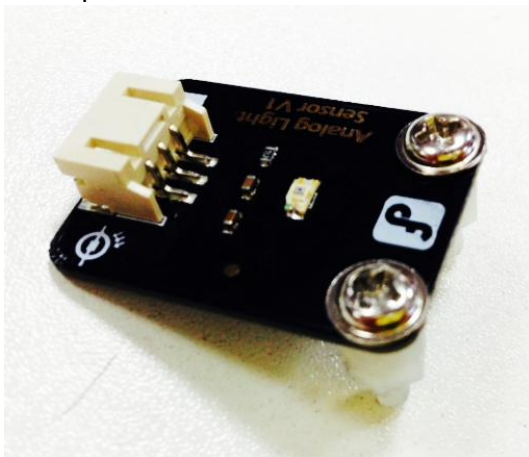
STEP2: Add the LCD Screen

Slide the shores into the four holes in the LCD screen and fix them on the car with four tie-wraps. Then cut the remaining part of the tie-wraps.



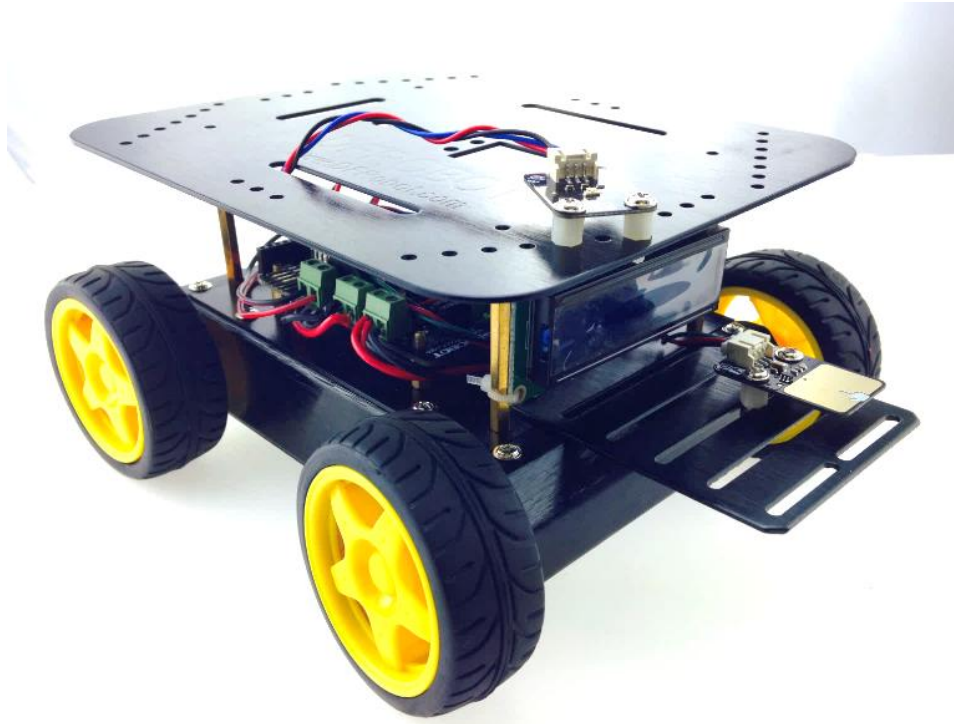
STEP3: Assemble the LX1972 Light Sensor

Fix the Nylon columns on the LX1972 Light Sensor just as it's shown in the picture below. Attach the sensor to the upper plate of the car by fastening the nuts for the tie-wraps.



STEP 4: What It Looks Like When Finished Assembling

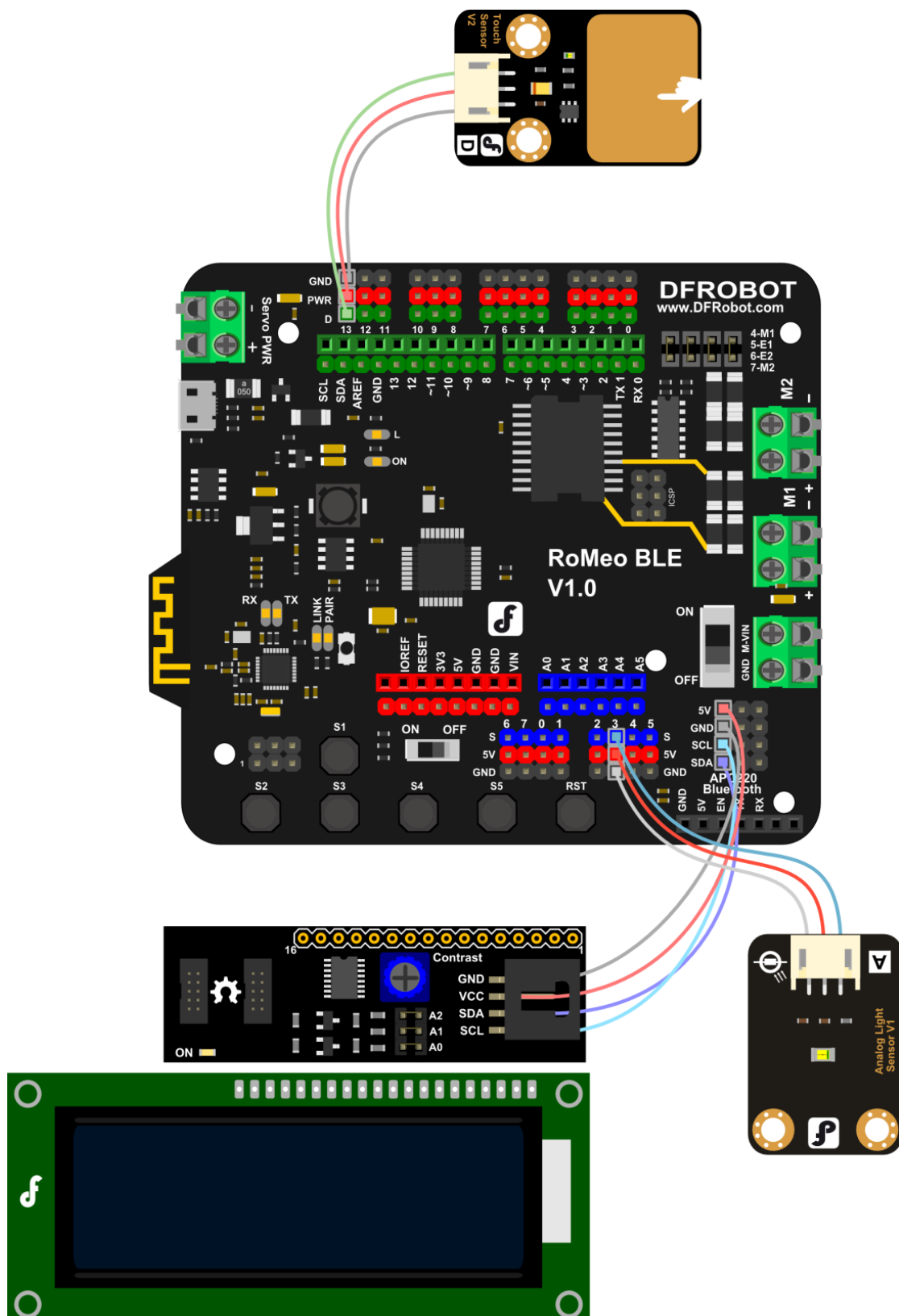
But now it's still too early for fixing the upper plate onto the car as we need to work on the electric circuit connection.



Connect the hardware

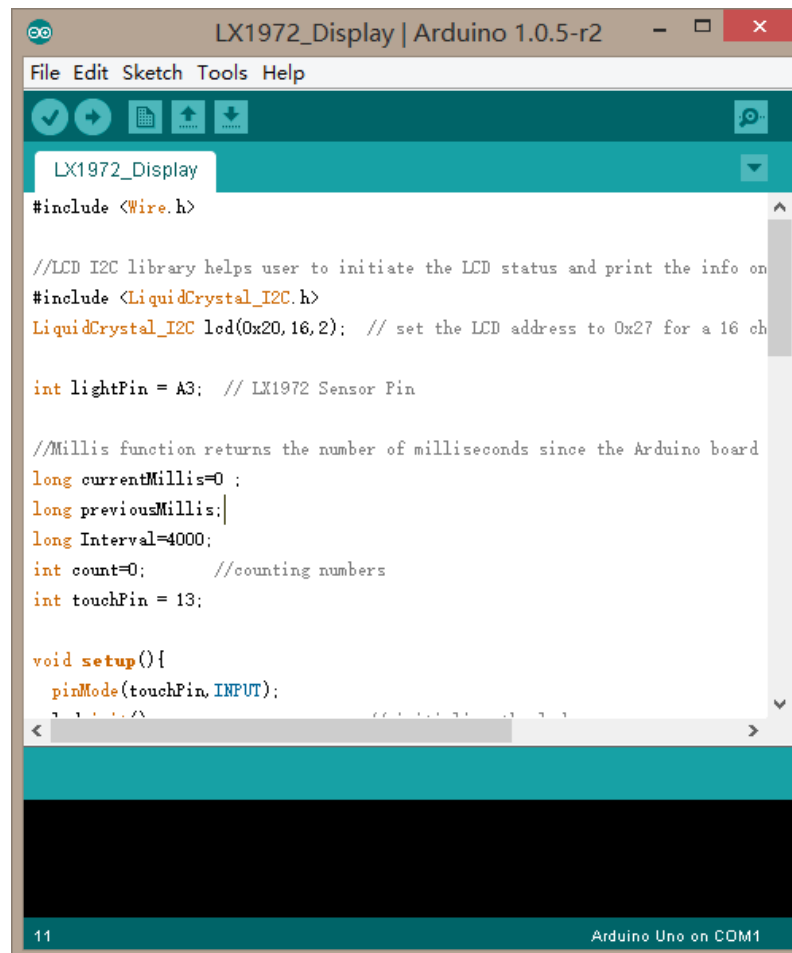
Now it's time for electric circuit connection. All you have to do is to connect the 3 pins on the sensor to the Romeo BLE.

Keeping cables in order is quite important. The green cable represents the signal one; the red one stands for VCC and the black one represents GND. The LCD monitor shall be connected to VCC, GND, SCL and SDA in that particular order.



Coding

Download the code first. The following picture only shows a part of the coding. You can find codes named *LX1972_Display.ino* and then download. And don't forget the library for *LiquidCrystal_I2C*.

A screenshot of the Arduino IDE interface. The title bar reads "LX1972_Display | Arduino 1.0.5-r2". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "Sketch", "Tools", and "Help". Below the menu bar is a toolbar with icons for opening, saving, and running. The main text area shows the following code:

```
#include <Wire.h>

//LCD I2C library helps user to initiate the LCD status and print the info on
#include <LiquidCrystal_I2C.h>
LiquidCrystal_I2C lcd(0x20,16,2); // set the LCD address to 0x27 for a 16 ch

int lightPin = A3; // LX1972 Sensor Pin

//Millis function returns the number of milliseconds since the Arduino board
long currentMillis=0 ;
long previousMillis=0;
long Interval=4000;
int count=0; //counting numbers
int touchPin = 13;

void setup(){
  pinMode(touchPin,INPUT);
}
```

The status bar at the bottom shows "11" and "Arduino Uno on COM1".

If everything goes smoothly and you've successfully downloaded the coding, real-time light intensity will be shown on the LCD screen. Hereby the touch sensor functions in two ways.

First, it functions switch of the LCD backlight lamp. If you don't touch the sensor for a long period, it will turn off itself automatically, which is energy-conservative.

Secondly, when you have several environment sensors, touch switch can help you quickly cut among different functions where you may see different environment monitoring data.

Code Synopsis

We need to call library at the beginning of the code. Library is quite important and software engineers have already written some functions to process complicated data in the library. It's unnecessary for you to understand such abstruse theory as long as you know how to use it. Thus, it won't be easy to understand code without library.

```
#include <Wire.h>

#include <LiquidCrystal_I2C.h>
LiquidCrystal_I2C lcd(0x20,16,2);
```

Here you need to know about *lightPin*, a variable that is used to declare the sensor's pins.

```
int lightPin = A3;
```

Namely, *lightPin* represents Analog Pin3. That is to say, our UV sensor is connected to Analog Pin3.

The followings are some declarations for the time variables. TouchPin represents touch sensor while 13 stands for digital pin.

```
long currentMillis=0;
long previousMillis;
long Interval=4000;
int count=0;          //counting numbers
int touchPin = 13;
```

Bring in the function of setup(), which is a setting-up for the initiation.

```
pinMode(touchPin, INPUT);
```

Then keep the touch sensor with a type-in mode. For specific information, you may check the Arduino Reference in Arduino Website(www.arduino.cc), which has introduced the function of pinMode().

Next, you need to initialize the LCD screen and turn on the LCD light, which show that LCD screen is ready.

```
lcd.init();
lcd.backlight();
delay(100);
lcd.setBacklight(0);
```


Now it's turn for the function of `loop()`. First we need to read the value from the touch sensor and then store those data with one variable `touchState`.

```
int touchState = digitalRead(touchPin);
```

Then check if the controller will receive a signal of HIGH once you touch the touch sensor with you fingers, 1 shall be added to the *count*.

```
if (touchState == HIGH) {  
    count++;  
    previousMillis= millis();  
}
```

Hereby *count* means how many times you have touched the screen. But if you only touch the sensor one time, then the amount of time for each touch will be included in the function of `millis()`.

We change the length of touch time with a sub sentence initiating with `if`. Interval here means the period for touch we set up. Thus, we know what action shall be taken within four-second of touch and more than four seconds' touch respectively.

```
if(currentMillis - previousMillis < Interval) {  
    //do something in 4 second  
} else {  
    //do something more than 4 seconds  
}
```

What action shall be taken when we touch the sensor for more than four seconds.

```
lcd.setBacklight(0);
```

The function of `setBacklight()` is used to turn off the LCD backlight lamp.

If we touch the sensor for more than four seconds, we know that the LCD backlight lamp can be turned off.

what action shall be taken within four-second of touch.

```
if (count==1){  
    // One touch, the LCD screen won't show any difference  
}  
else if (count==2){  
    // Touch twice, value will be shown on the LCD screen  
}
```


Press the touch sensor one more time within four seconds; the screen would still be off. Only if you touches it twice at the same time, will the LCD backlight be on and figures of dust density be shown.

Please remember to keep the count as zero after you touch the sensor for the last time.

```
count=0;
```

Thus the complete code shall be:

```
if (count==1) {  
    lcd.setBacklight(0);  
}  
else if (count==2) {  
    lcd.backlight();  
    LX1972Show();  
    count=0;  
}
```

Then we need to keep a track of the current time as we can compare it with *previousMillis*. This point is very important.

```
currentMillis = millis();
```

The function of `lightShow()` is used to show LX1972 light sensor value. And the variable `lightValue` will be used to store the data from the LX1972 light sensor.

```
int lightValue = analogRead(lightPin);
```

The function of `analogRead()` is used to read the data from analog pin. If you want to know more, you can scan Arduino official page(www.arduino.cc).

Here is how we would used the function related to LCD screen.

```
lcd.setCursor(0,0);  
lcd.setCursor(0,1);
```

The function of `setCursor(column,row)` is used to demonstrate which column and row the cursor is shown, starting from zero within the brackets.

```
lcd.print(lightValue);
```

`print()` means this figure can be shown on the screen directly.

```
lcd.print("    ");
```

`lcd.print(" ")` means blank space shown on the screen. It's used to clear the screen.

A Combination of Multiple Sensors

How can you combine multiple environmental sensors once you have bought some kind of sensors?

Don't worry. We will offer you guys a coding template for the testing of multiple sensors. You can make adjustments of the combination by referring to the mentioned template. In fact, the theory is the same as single sensor except that there are for steps for the changes of LCD screen.

The coding in red below needs to be modified. We mentioned before that count refers to how many times fingers touch the sensor. Thus, count=2 means that we have pressed twice and it shows the figures for the first sensor. Keep going! Please bear in your mind that you shall keep the count zero again.

Sample Code:

```
if(currentMillis - previousMillis < Interval) {  
  if (count==1){  
    lcd.setBacklight(0);  
  }  
  else if (count==2){      //No.1 Sensor  
    Sensor1Show();  
    lcd.backlight();  
  }  
  else if(count==3){      //No.2 Sensor  
    Sensor2Show();  
    lcd.backlight();  
    count = 0;  
  }  
}
```

Of course, initiation set-up, declaration of variables at the beginning, for the sensor is important.

You can check the sample code named *WeatherStation.ino* for reference if you still have no idea how to modify your codes.