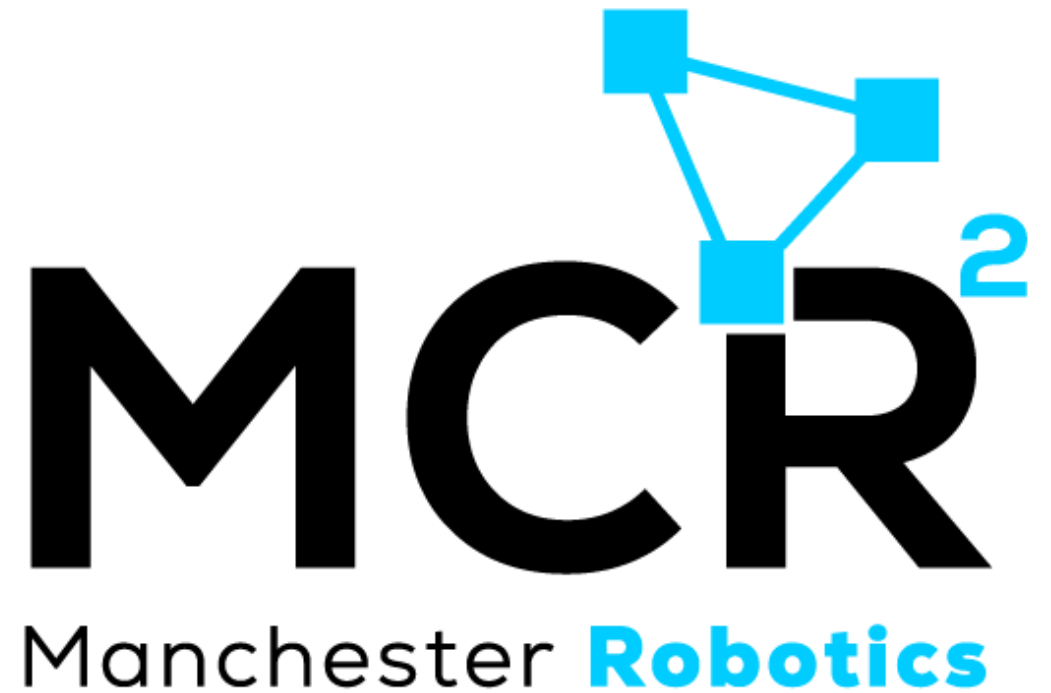


*{Learn, Create, Innovate};*

# Manchester Robotics

*Robotics For Everyone*





# Who are we?

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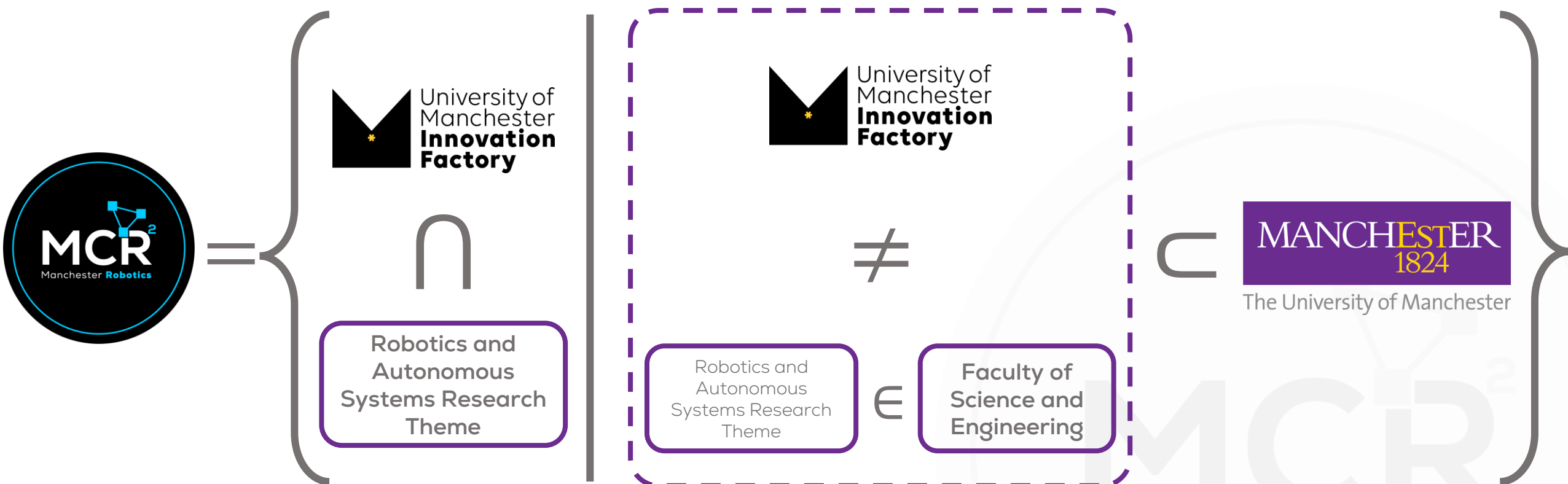
Manchester Robotics Limited is  
University of Manchester spin-out  
company.

Born from an initiative of the Robotics  
Research Group within the Aerospace  
Research Institute offering development  
platforms for academic research and  
education as well as for industrial  
prototyping.





# Where do we come from?



# The problem

- Primary & secondary sectors of the global economy are rapidly adopting robotics ([The World Economic Forum](#)).
- Education systems are failing to meet the demand for robotics-related STEM skills.
- Just in Europe, 10 million plant, machine operator & assembler position are forecast to remain vacant over the next 10 years due to a lack of qualified labour ([International Federation of Robotics](#)).

MARKET SECTOR	% OF COMPANIES ADOPTING ROBOTICS IN 2021
Mining & Metals	90%
Advanced Manufacturing	85%
Manufacturing	79%
Oil & Gas	79%
Transportation & Storage	69%
Automotive	60%
Agriculture, Food & Bev	54%

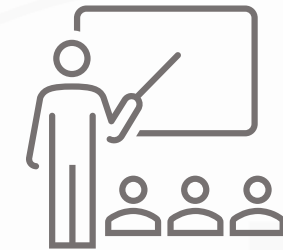
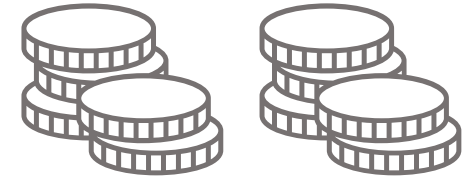


# More problems...

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- In higher education there is a limited usage of robotic platforms (only a small number of courses).
- Typically, the cost of each platform >£2000 (only few platforms for 100+ students). Limited open access.
- Limited to work for on-campus labs only. Usually, 1 platform per group of 6-8 students.
- Do not consider the learning abilities/environments of the students (e.g., not suitable for kinesthetic, auditory and visual students or quieter/shy students).
- Steep learning curves that require weeks of learning to grasp fundamental underlying concepts.
  - Hence, the student only interacts with a high-level, simplified graphical user interfaces.
  - The product is usually a closed system (not to be modified by the students), and only specializing in one single concept increasing the price.
  - This enables rapid user on-boarding, but results in a superficial learning experience and limited functionality.



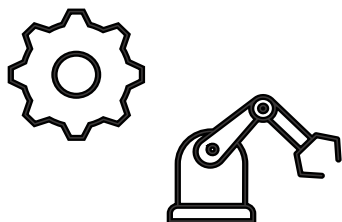
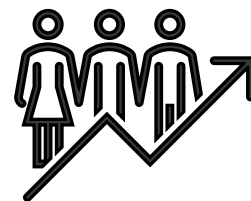
MCR<sup>2</sup>  
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# What do we do?



We create globally-accessible educational tools & curricula for Robotics & Automation



... & providing employers a pipeline of skilled labour



... guiding learners to exciting careers ...

*In a nutshell we provide learners, in whatever manner they want to learn, effectively state of the art courses and a lab in a portable robot.*

MCR<sup>2</sup>  
Manchester Robotics



# What do we want?

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- **Solve real problems from industry** – To help primary & secondary sectors of the global economy to rapidly adopting robotics.
- **Robotic democratization** – Provide engineering heroes accessible robotic platforms and help them to reach their potential.
- **Make robotics a net job-creator** – Guide learners to exciting careers & providing employers a pipeline of skilled labour.





# Vision & Mission

## VISION

Our vision is to democratize access to skills in Robotics and Automation that will drive future economic growth.



*"Education is evolving so we need to evolve with it ..."*

*Dr Alexandru Stancu, CEO/Director*



## MISSION

To disrupt how robotics is currently taught; by combining technology with teaching to provide learners with a deep understanding of robotics theory, and how to apply this to real world problems.

Manchester Robotics





# Core values

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## VALUES

- **Innovation** – To create the world's most advanced educational robot.
- **Applied learning** – To provide the robotics industry with a healthy resource of talent.
- **Availability to all** – To provide access to a robotic platform and courses for everyone (democratise).



*"For us robotic democratisation is not a concept... its our way of thinking, working... being."*

*Professor Constantinos Soutis, Director*





# The team

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PROFESSOR  
CONSTANTINOS SOUTIS  
DIRECTOR & CO-  
FOUNDER



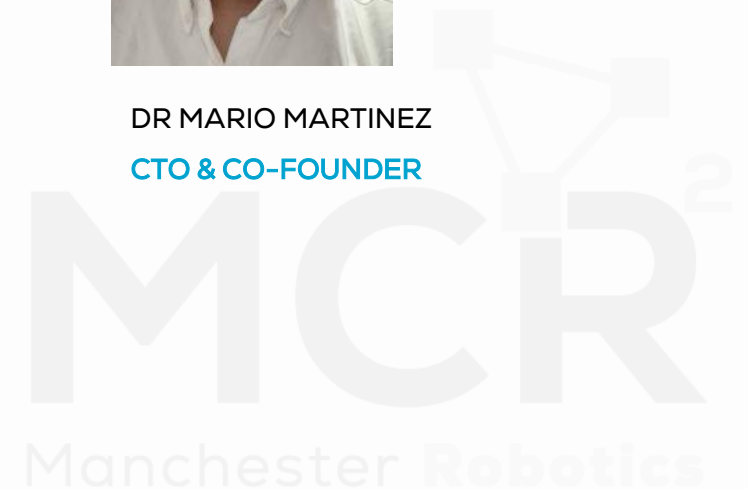
DR ALEXANDRU STANCU  
CEO, DIRECTOR & CO-  
FOUNDER



PHIL KEMP  
ADVISOR



DR MARIO MARTINEZ  
CTO & CO-FOUNDER





# The teaching team

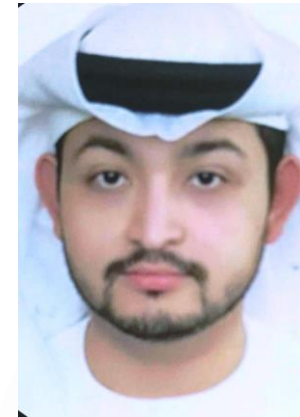
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DR ALMA REBECA  
VELASCO OLMOS  
LECTURER



DR MARC FACERÍAS  
LECTURER



DR KHALID IBRAHIM  
LECTURER





# Our solution

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- A flexible low-cost platform that can be developed by the user and become “smarter”.
- The Puzzlebot was born as an answer to the concept of robotic democratization.
- The governing philosophy is that customers are motivated to learn robotics by the appeal of advanced features, which therefore offer far more value than over-simplified proxies with high cost, and limited utility.

# Puzzlebot



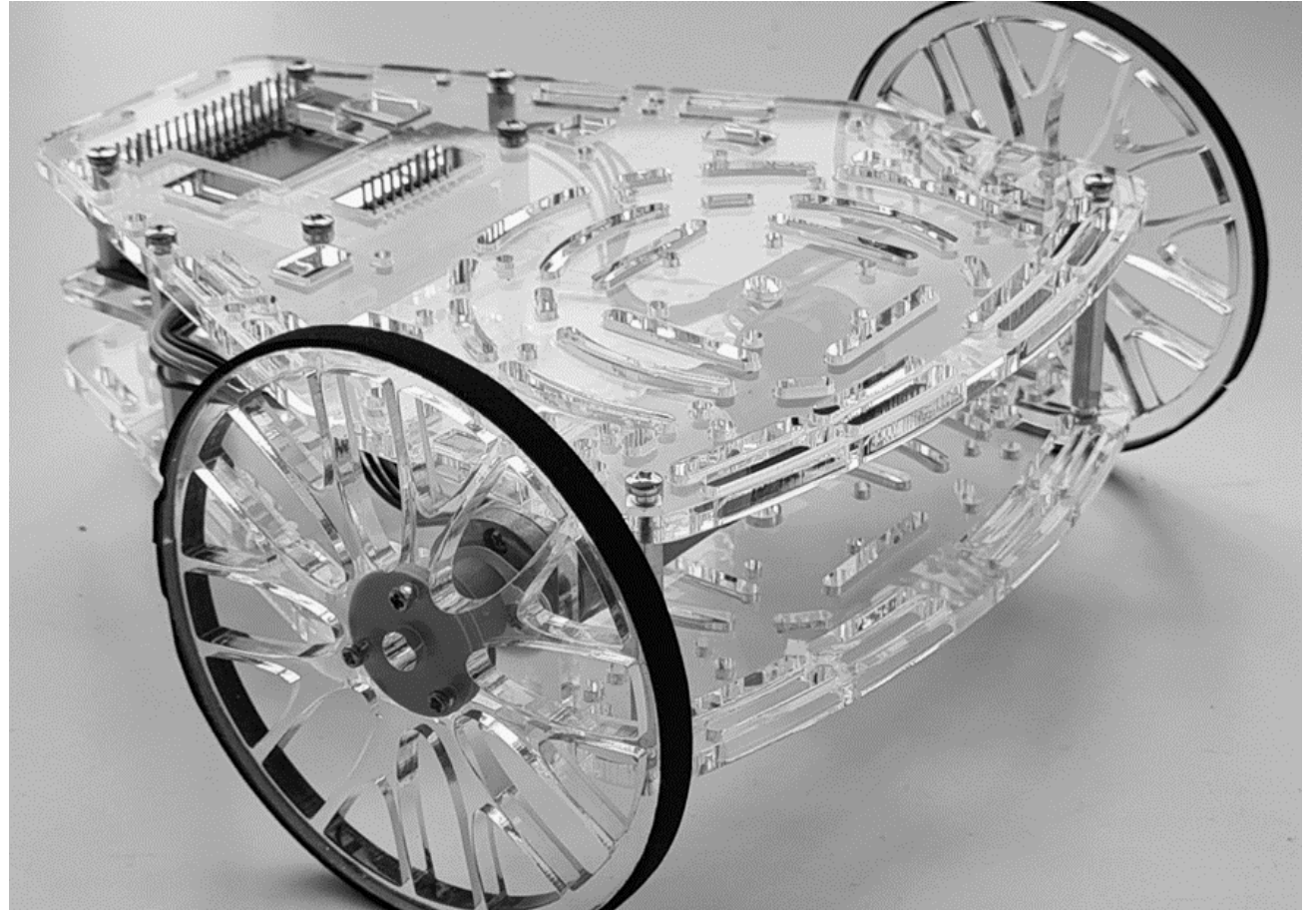


# Our solution

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- Puzzlebot is a universal tool for robotics, to help others learn, create, and innovate their own robotic projects.
- The Puzzlebot is a cross-platform, open-source, and plug-and-play mobile robot.
- Capable of accommodating 3rd party off-the-shelf components, thereby keeping unit costs low and democratizing educational access for all.



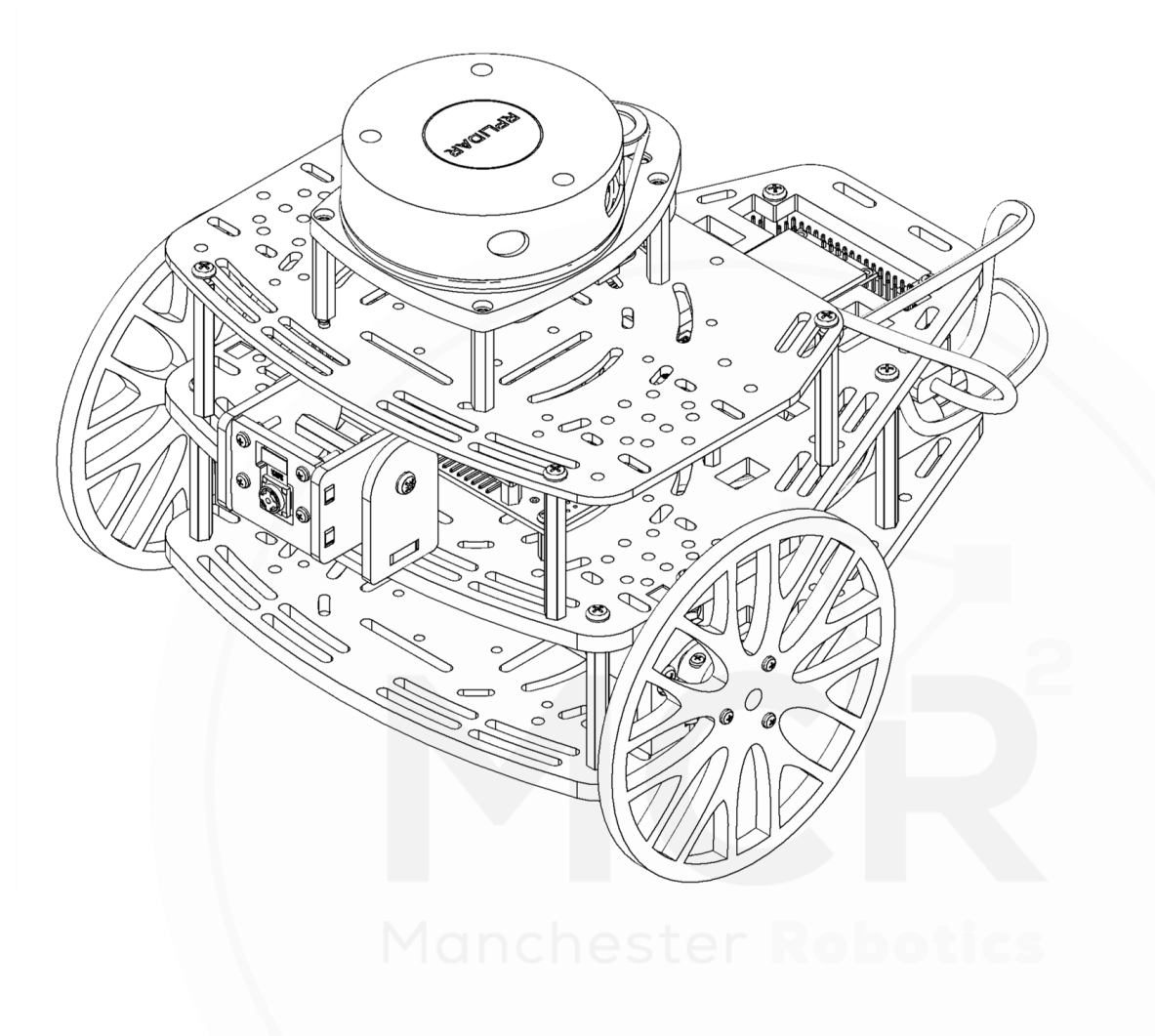


# Our solution

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- Programmable in different languages, catering to learners preferred starting languages.
- Provides continuity from entry-level access to research-level functionality to ensure that learners can focus on skill progression rather than constantly being retrained on different robotic platforms.



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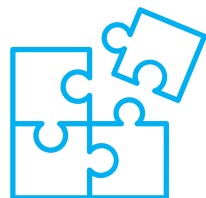
# What makes us different?

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## Advanced Capability

The circuit board is designed around powerful microprocessors and microcontrollers.

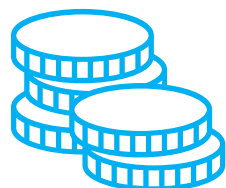
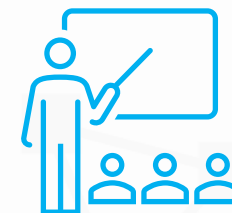


## Versatile Feature-set

Our circuit board and software are designed to be versatile to accommodate add-on components.

## Basic to Advanced Courses

Basic to advanced robotics courses developed alongside our partnership with NVIDIA.



## Accessible Price Point

We design with the intent of manufacturing at high volume to keep unit costs low.

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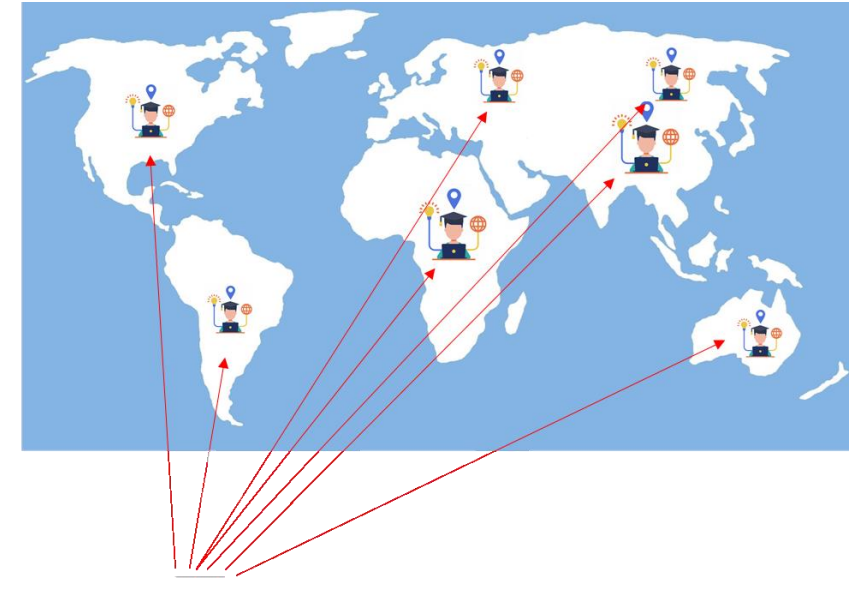


# Previous experiences

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- Manchester Robotics proved itself during lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 300+ units shipped during COVID lockdown.
- Helped students all around the world by providing a lab in a portable robot.
- Design the robotics courses to be implemented in the Puzzlebot in a practical way.
- Accessible, and independent learning tools for key skills in Robotics & Automation.
- Accessible price – Robotic democratization.
- AAA (Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere) Teaching.



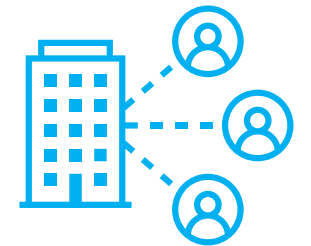


# Collaborations

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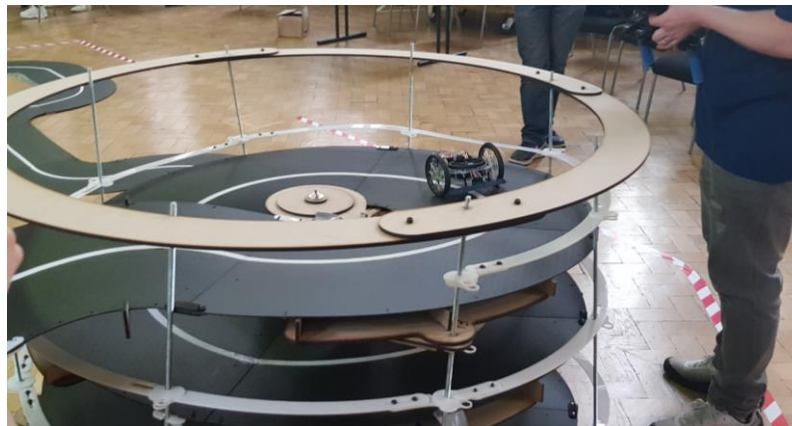
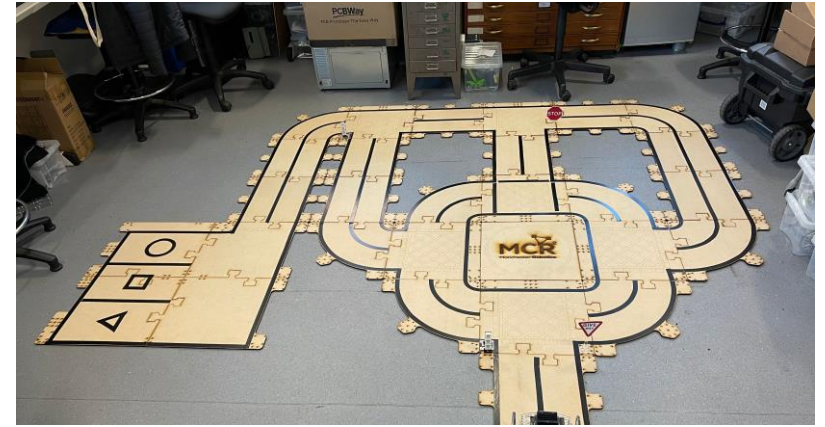
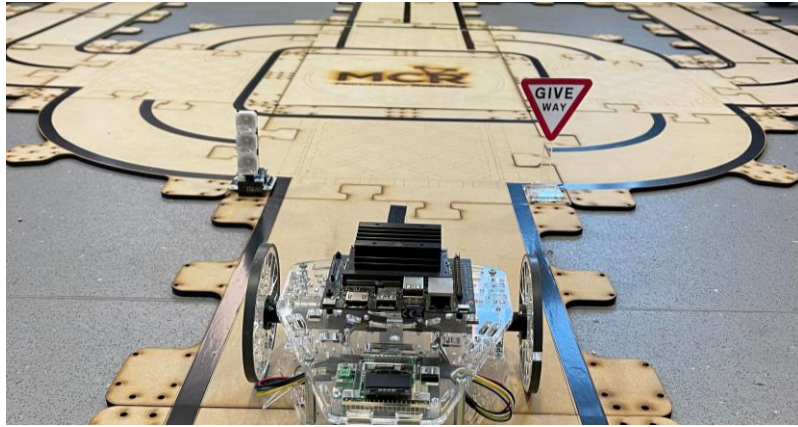


- Close collaboration with NVIDIA for developing robotic platforms and curricula to teach robot vision and AI.
- Close collaboration with Universities around the globe such as University of Manchester, UPC, ENSTA, Tec de Monterrey, UPY and expanding.
- We participated as NVIDIA partner at GTC Conference (NVIDIA GPU Technology Conference) in November 2021.
- Large scale projects
  - Nuclear Industry
  - Defense Industry
  - Textile Industry





# Competitions and Challenges





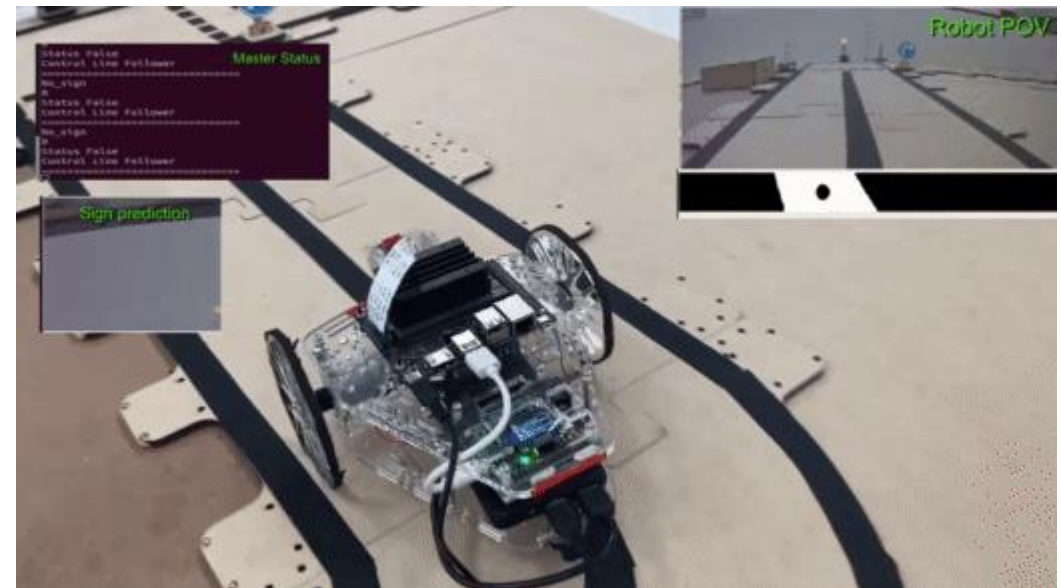
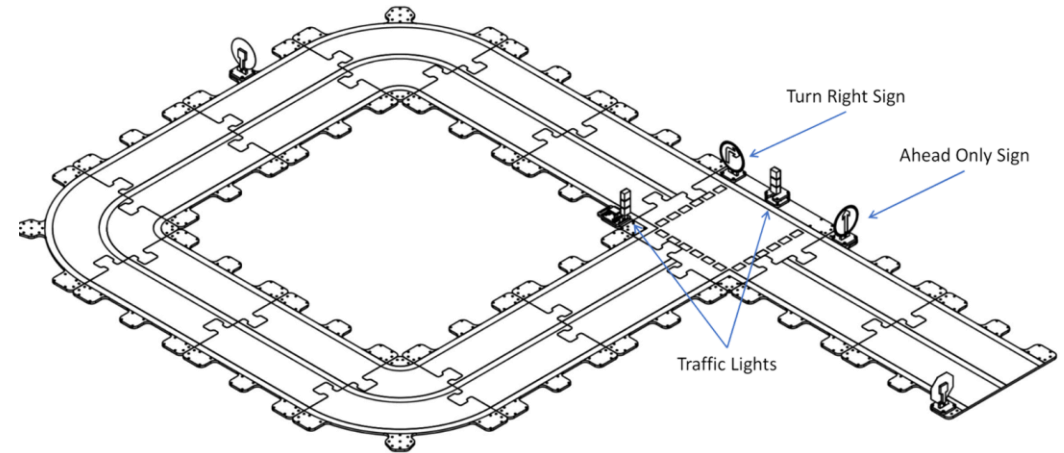


# Tec de Monterrey Challenge



- Last year challenge consisted in autonomously drive the robot on a predefined track provided by MCR2.
- Using the knowledge acquired during the semester, the students were able to implement a neural networks alongside some image recognition algorithms and control theory to drive the robot on the track while obeying the traffic signals.
- The best teams got the chance exhibit their results to their professors, the directors of MCR2, and the engineering directors at NVIDIA.

Track



# Thank You

*Robotics For Everyone*

*{Learn, Create, Innovate};*

