Project 6: Compass

1. Description

This project mainly introduces the use of the Micro:bit's compass. It can be used to determine the direction. We need to calibrate the Micro:bit board when magnetic sensor works. The correct calibration method is to rotate the Micro:bit board.

In addition, the objects nearby may affect the accuracy of readings and calibration.



(Compass)

2. Components Needed

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Micro:bit * 1	USB Cable * 1	

3. Test Code

You can upload the code directly from the tutorial (read the "Development Environment Configuration" file if in doubt).

Code1:

```
from microbit import *

compass.calibrate()

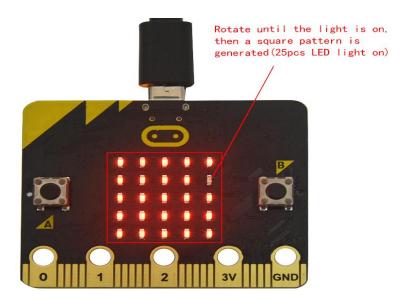
while True:

if button_a.is_pressed():

display.scroll(compass.heading())
```

Code Explanation: We need to calibrate micro: bit due to different magnetic field in different areas. Micro:bit will prompt you to calibrate when you use it first time.

Transfer code 1 to micro:bit, plug in micro:bit via USB cable and press button A. "TILT TO FILL SCREEN" appears on micro:bit. Then enter the calibration interface, the calibration method is to rotate the micro:bit board and display a full square pattern(25 LEDs are on), as shown in the following figure:



The calibration is finished until you view the smile pattern.

The serial monitor will show 0°, 90°, 180° and 270° when pressing A.

Code2:

```
from microbit import *

compass.calibrate()

x = 0

while True:

x = compass.heading()

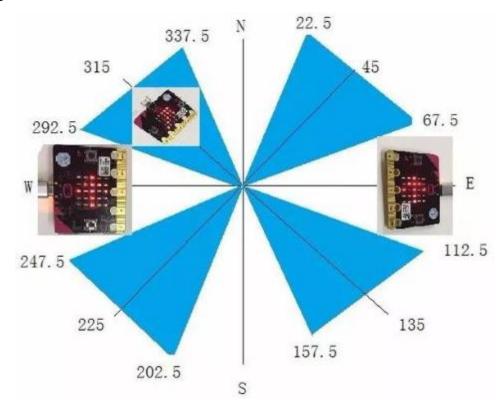
if x >= 293 and x < 338:

display.show(Image("00999:""00099:""00909:""09000:""90000"))
```

```
elif x > = 23 and x < 68:
display.show(Image("99900:""99000:""90900:""00090:""00009"))
        elif x > = 68 and x < 113:
display.show(Image("00900:""09000:""99999:""09000:""00900"))
        elif x > = 113 and x < 158:
display.show(Image("00009:""00090:""90900:""999000:""99900"))
        elif x > = 158 and x < 203:
display.show(Image("00900:""00900:""90909:""09990:""00900"))
        elif x > = 203 and x < 248:
display.show(Image("90000:""09000:""00909:""00099:""00999"))
        elif x > = 248 and x < 293:
display.show(Image("00900:""00090:""99999:""00090:""00900"))
        else:
display.show(Image("00900:""09990:""90909:""00900:""00900"))
```

Make micro: bit board point to the north, south, east and west horizontally, LED dot matrix displays the corresponding direction patterns.

As shown below, the arrow pointing to the upper right when the value ranges from 292.5 to 337.5. 0.5 can't be input in the code, thereby, the values we get are 293 and 338



Upload code 2 onto micro:bit board and don't plug off USB cable. After calibration, tilt Micro:bit board, the LED dot matrix displays the direction signs.

4. Code Explanation

from microbit import *	Import the library file of micro:bit
compass.calibrate()	Compass calibration
while True:	This is a permanent loop, which makes micro:bit execute the code of it.
<pre>if button_a.is_pressed(): display.scroll(compass.heading())</pre>	When the button A is pressed Micro:bit scrolls to show the value of compass
x = 0	Set variable x=0
x = compass.heading()	Set the value of compass to variable x
ifelifelse	Set the value of compass to variable x
display.show(Image("00999:""0009 9:""00909:""09000:""90000"))	Micro:bit shows the Northeast arrow sign
display.show(Image("99900:""9900 0:""90900:""00090:""00009"))	Micro:bit shows the Northwest arrow sign
display.show(Image("00900:""0900 0:""99999:""09000:""00900")) display.show(Image("00009:""0009	Micro:bit shows the west arrow sign Micro:bit shows the Southwest arrow sign
0:""90900:""99000:""99900")) display.show(Image("00900:""0090	Micro:bit shows the Southeast arrow sign

0:""90909:""09990:""00900"))

display.show(Image("90000:""0900

0:""00909:""00099:""00999"))

display.show(Image("00900:""0009

0:""99999:""00090:""00900"))

display.show(Image("00900:""0999

0:""90909:""00900:""00900"))

Micro:bit shows the South arrow sign

Micro:bit shows the East arrow sign

Micro:bit shows the North arrow sign