

# **WBOOTH** SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING PRACTICE AND TECHNOLOGY





# Objective

Learn about setting up a CAN interface and communicating to devices on a CAN bus using Linux.

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#### Pre-Lab Questions

#### Post-Lab Questions

Q1- What is CAN? Briefly describe how it works.

(Suggested: Short Paragraph)

Q2 - What is Git? How can Git be used to clone remote repositories?

(Suggested: Short Paragraph)

Q3 - What is *differential drive* in the context of robotics? Briefly describe how it functions in controlling direction and speed.

(Suggested: Short Paragraph)

Q4 - Which 2 files must be sourced in order for ROS to be able to access the version you want to use and the workspace you want to use.

(Suggested: 2 sentences)

Q5 - The MacBot uses a *Jetson Nano* to control itself. Compare and contrast a Jetson Nano to a Raspberry Pi 4 B+.

(Suggested: Table)

Q6 - Define the word *odometry* in the context of robotics.

(Suggested: Short Paragraph)

Q7 - In your own words, compare and contrast *global* vs *local* path planning algorithms.

(Suggested: Short Paragraph)

Q8 - Generate an *RQT graph* for the MacBot performing SLAM. Take a screenshot and include it with your report.

(Suggested: Screenshot)

Q9 - List 3 industry applications of SLAM. What advantages does SLAM have over GPS?

(Suggested: Short Paragraph)

Q11 – Write a brief LinkedIn post about key concepts that were learned in this lab.

(Suggested: Short Paragraph)

# Optional Assignment

Follow the following tutorial to install, build, and run TurtleSim. Take a screenshot to demonstrate that you can control it using your keyboard.

WiKi: <a href="http://wiki.ros.org/turtlesim">http://wiki.ros.org/turtlesim</a>

## Feedback

Q1 - What would v	ou rate the	difficulty of	f this lab?

(1 = easy, 5 = difficult)

1

2

3

4

5

Comments about the difficulty of the lab:

Q2 - Did you have enough time to complete the lab within the designated lab time?

YES

NO

Q3 - How easy were the lab instructions to understand?

(1 = easy, 5 = unclear)

1

2

3

4

5

List any unclear steps:

Q4 - Could you see yourself using the skills learned in this lab to tackle future engineering challenges?

(1 = no, 5 = yes)

1

2

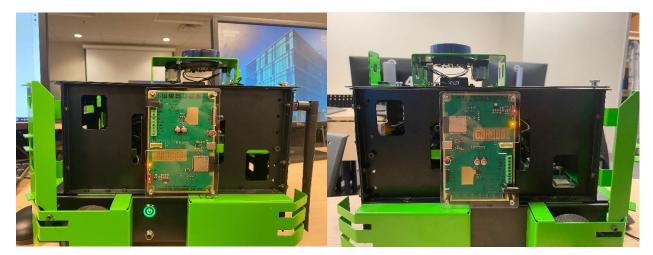
3

1

5

### Motor Driver Setup

For this lab, 2 motor controller modules will be needed. One motor driver unit will be magnetically attached to the left-side of the MacBot and the other will be attached to the right-side of the MacBot.



Each of these motor controller modules requires 2 cables to be connected to the rear end of each module. The 6-pin connector is the encoder cable and carries rotor orientation data to the embedded ESP32 on the motor controller unit. The second connecter is power from the power distribution board inside the MacBot.



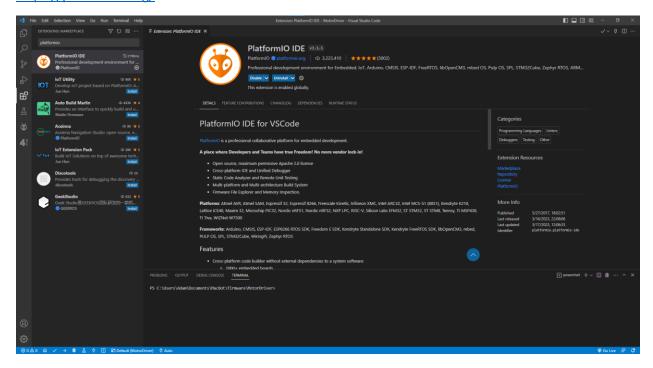
When the MacBot is powered OFF, motor controller firmware can be loaded onto the ESP32 on each motor controller module using a USB-C cable.

The firmware is located in the **firmware/MotorDriver** directory in the project repository.

#### https://github.com/adamsokacz/macbot/tree/main/firmware/MotorDriver

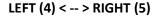
The development environment used to build and upload the motor driver is called PlatformIO. PlatformIO, abbreviated as PIO, is a cross-platform multi-framework IDE for VSCode that can be installed through the Extension Manager tab.

#### https://platformio.org/



Each device on a CAN network must have a unique device ID, so that it can be independently addressed. This ID is represented as an integer number and is set when uploading the motor driver code to the motor controller module. It can be found on **line 156** in the **setup method** of the **main.cpp** file.

To reduce confusion, the **left** motor controller module will be **device #4** and the **right** motor controller module will be **device #5**. The point-of-reference is facing the front of the MacBot.





To upload each driver code, click on the verify ( $\bigcirc$ ) and upload ( $\bigcirc$ ) buttons on the bottom ribbon of the PlatformIO IDE. Ports will automatically be scanned for recognized development boards.



## Powering On the MacBot

Before proceeding, I suggest that each group elevate the MacBot off the work space by 2+ cm to ensure that each motor has the freedom to rotate unexpectedly.



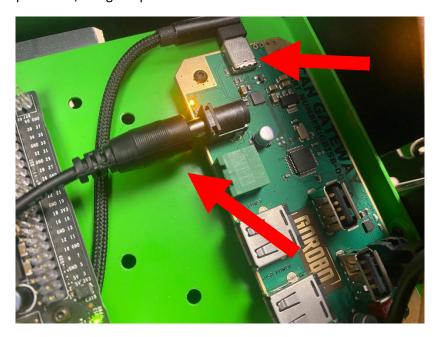
Turn the MacBot ON. It is preferred to operate on battery power as the power distribution board will have the ability to deliver more current to each motor, however a direct-to-wall connection will also work.

To use battery mode, ensure the following prerequisite steps have been taken.

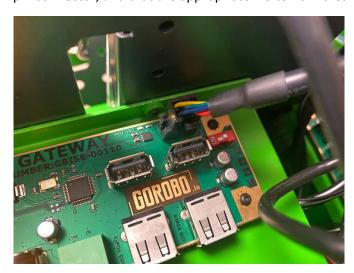
The power input selection jumper should connect the two exposed pins, setting it from MicroUSB 5 W to barrel connector MAXN mode.

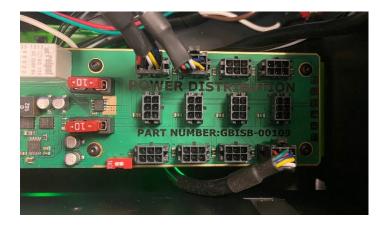


A barrel connector should be used to connect the USB-to-CAN module with the Jetson Nano development board. Ensure the USB-to-CAN module is also connected to one of the Jetson Nano's USB ports also, using the provided USB to USB-C cable.



Also, ensure that the USB-to-CAN board is receiving power from the power distribution board using a 6-pin connector, and that the appropriate 7.5 to 10 A breakers are used.





The power distribution board firmware must be downloaded onto the embedded ESP32 device on the board. It can be found in the **firmware/DistributionBoard** directory of the MacBot repository.

https://github.com/adamsokacz/macbot/tree/main/firmware/DistributionBoard

The firmware is required because it must toggle a normally-open power relay on-boot to allow connected devices to receive power. You will hear a click when this happens.

Click the battery power button to turn on the MacBot. You should audibly and visually see indicators power up on the MacBot, as well as the LiDAR begin to spin.



After 1 minute, attempt to connect to the MacBot using the instructions found in the project documentation:

https://adam-36.gitbook.io/macbot/connect

## Installing CAN Dependencies

Once the MacBot has been booted and you have successfully connected to the unit, verify that the project files have already been transferred to your user directory.

```
cd ~
Is -I
```

If there are many files in this directory, use the GREP command to search file names in this directory.

Is -I | grep macbot

```
jnano@macbot10:-$ ls -l

total 56
drwxr-xr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 26 12:02 Desktop
drwxr-xr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 10 14:00 Documents
drwxr-xr-x 3 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 26 12:19 Downloads
-rw-r--r- 1 jnano jnano 8980 Mar 10 13:58 examples.desktop
drwxrwxr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 22 20:10 lidar
drwxrwxr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 22 20:11 lidar_ws
drwxrwxr-x 5 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 22 17:52 macbot
drwxr-xr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 10 14:00 Music
drwxr-xr-x 3 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 10 19:34 Pictures
drwxr-xr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 10 14:00 Public
drwxr-xr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 10 14:00 Templates
drwxr-xr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 10 14:00 Videos
jnano@macbot10:-$ ls -l | grep macbot
drwxrwxr-x 7 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 27 17:52 macbot
jnano@macbot10:-$
```

Navigate into the SDK directory inside the macbot project folder and find the **golink\_env** folder.

```
cd macbot

cd SDK

cd golink_env

ls -l
```

```
golink_env + = - - ×

jnano@macbot10:-$ cd macbot/SDKs/golink_env/
jnano@macbot10:-/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$ ls -l

total 16

drwxrwxr-x 4 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 27 17:52 extern

drwxrwxr-x 3 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 27 18:21 golink

-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 0 Mar 27 17:52 main.py

-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 194 Mar 27 17:52 sftp.json

drwxrwxr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 27 18:06 utils
jnano@macbot10:-/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$
```

Before using this library, we must ensure that the Python prerequisite packages are installed on our system.

sudo apt -y install python3 python3-pip

```
golink_env + = - - ×

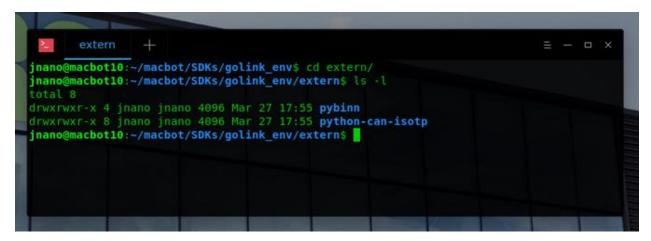
jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$ sudo apt -y install python3 python3-pip
[sudo] password for jnano:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
python3 is already the newest version (3.6.7-1~18.04).
python3-pip is already the newest version (9.0.1-2.3~ubuntu1.18.04.8).

The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
apt-clone archdetect-deb bogl-bterm busybox-static cryptsetup-bin dpkg-repack
gir1.2-timezonemap-1.0 gir1.2-xkl-1.0 grub-common kde-window-manager kinit kio
kpackagetool5 kwayland-data kwin-common kwin-data kwin-xl1 libdebian-installer4
libkdecorations2-5v5 libkdecorations2private5v5 libkf5activities5 libkf5attica5
```

sudo pip3 install python-can rospkg

```
jnano@macbotl0:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$ sudo pip3 install python-can rospkg
The directory '/home/jnano/.cache/pip/http' or its parent directory is not owned by the current user and the cache has been disabled. Please check the permissions and owner of that directory. If executing pip with sudo, you may want sudo's -H flag.
The directory '/home/jnano/.cache/pip' or its parent directory is not owned by the current user and caching wheels has been disabled. check the permissions and owner of that directory. If executing pip with sudo, you may want sudo's -H flag.
Requirement already satisfied: python-can in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages
Requirement already satisfied: rospkg in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages
Requirement already satisfied: aenum in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from py thon-can)
```

Next, there are a few Python packages that must be installed manually. Navigate to the **extern/** directory. This directory typically contains external dependencies to a project.



First, lets install pybinn. Navigate into the pybinn directory and manually install it.

cd pybinn Is -l

sudo python3 setup.py install

```
pybinn +

jnano@macbotl0:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/extern$ cd pybinn/
jnano@macbotl0:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/extern/pybinn$ ls -l

total 24

drwxr-xr-x 3 root root 4096 Mar 27 17:55 build
-rw-rw-r- 1 jnano jnano 1073 Mar 27 17:52 LICENCE

drwxrwxr-x 2 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 27 17:52 pybinn
-rw-rw-r- 1 jnano jnano 525 Mar 27 17:52 pybinn
-rw-rw-r- 1 jnano jnano 393 Mar 27 17:52 setup.py
-rw-rw-r- 1 jnano jnano 2654 Mar 27 17:52 test_pybinn.py
jnano@macbotl0:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/extern/pybinn$ sudo python3 setup.py install
running build
running build
running build/lib
creating build/lib
creating build/lib/pybinn
copying pybinn/_init__.py -> build/lib/pybinn
copying pybinn/encoder.py -> build/lib/pybinn
```

Navigate back to the extern/ directory, then into the **python-can-isotp/** directory. Install this package manually.

```
cd ..

Is -I

cd python-can-isotp

Is

sudo python3 setup.py install
```

```
python-can-isotp +

jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/extern/pybinn$ cd ..

jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/extern$ ls -l

total 8

drwxrwxr-x 4 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 27 17:55 pybinn

drwxrwxr-x 8 jnano jnano 4096 Mar 27 17:55 python-can-isotp

jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/extern$ cd python-can-isotp/
jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/extern/python-can-isotp$ ls

jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/extern/python-can-isotp$ sudo python3 setup.py install
/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/setuptools/dist.py:726: UserWarning: Usage of dash-separated
'description-file' will not be supported in future versions. Please use the underscore name 'descr

iption_file' instead

% (opt, underscore_opt)
running install
/usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/setuptools/command/install.py:37: SetuptoolsDeprecationWarni
```

Lastly, return to the golink env directory.

cd ../..

## Initializing CAN Communication

In order to begin communicating over CAN, we need to enable the low-level Linux kernel modules that help it communicate with CAN devices.

In order to configure it correctly, we need to know which port the USB-to-CAN board is connected to.

List usb devices. You should notice 2 AVR devices that rely on the CP210X driver. One is the LiDAR and the other is the USB-to-CAN board.

Isusb

```
jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$ lsusb

Bus 002 Device 002: ID 0bda:0411 Realtek Semiconductor Corp.

Bus 002 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0003 Linux Foundation 3.0 root hub

Bus 001 Device 005: ID 10c4:ea60 Cygnal Integrated Products, Inc. CP210x UART Bridge / myAVR mySmartUSB light

Bus 001 Device 004: ID 10c4:ea60 Cygnal Integrated Products, Inc. CP210x UART Bridge / myAVR mySmartUSB light

Bus 001 Device 004: ID 10c4:ea60 Cygnal Integrated Products, Inc. CP210x UART Bridge / myAVR mySmartUSB light

Bus 001 Device 003: ID 0bda:b812 Realtek Semiconductor Corp.

Bus 001 Device 002: ID 0bda:5411 Realtek Semiconductor Corp.

Bus 001 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0002 Linux Foundation 2.0 root hub

jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$
jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$
```

The USB-to-CAN board is usually the second of the two devices to be initialized, because of a software delay on the power relay in the distribution board firmware.

We must find which USB port the CAN board is connected to.

Is /dev

You will notice that there are many virtual and hardware connections listed. To narrow it down, search file names using the GREP command.

Is /dev | grep USB

```
golink_env +

jnano@macbotl0:-/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$ ls /dev | grep USB

ttyUSB1
jnano@macbotl0:-/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$
```

Therefore, we can safely assume that the USB-to-CAN board is connected to /dev/ttyUSB1.

There is a pre-written bash script inside of golink\_env/utils to automate the connection process. Before running it, launch it in a text editor to verify that it attempts to initialize on /dev/ttyUSB1.

cd utils

nano golink-bus-init.sh

```
utils +

jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env$ cd utils/
jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/utils$ ls -l

total 4

-rwxrwxr-x 1 jnano jnano 669 Mar 27 20:02 golink-bus-init.sh
jnano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/utils$ nano golink-bus-init.sh
```

Nano uses commands similar to windows commands to navigate the interface. Use your arrow keys to navigate the text file. Hold down CTRL + arrow keys to skip word-by-word. Use CTRL + S to save the buffer to the file. Use CTRL + X to exit.



Once you have verified that the port matches, set the script to be executable and run this shell script as administrator.

sudo chmod +x golink-bus-init.sh

./golink-bus-init.sh

If the initialization was successful, you MUST see the CANO interface printed to your terminal window. It can also be viewed with the common **ifconfig** command.

```
inano@macbot10:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/utils$ ifconfig
can0: flags=193<UP,RUNNING,NOARP> mtu 16
    unspec 00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00 txqueuelen 10 (UNSPEC)
    RX packets 21156 bytes 169248 (169.2 KB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 1311 bytes 5895 (5.8 KB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

docker0: flags=4099<UP,BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 172.17.0.1 netmask 255.255.0.0 broadcast 172.17.255.255
    ether 02:42:a8:09:4c:8e txqueuelen 0 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
```

It is important to note that this interface MUST be re-initialized after each boot of the MacBot.

#### Exercise A:

What is a network interface in Linux?

What command is used to view active network interfaces in Linux?

What does the GREP command do in Linux? Why does it used with a | (pipe) character?

## Controlling Motors Independently using Python

In the golink\_env /golink folder, launch SimpleControl.py.

Is -1

python3 SimpleControl.py

```
plano@macbotl0:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/golinks ls -l

total 28
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 3192 Mar 27 17:52 goLinkManager.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 3914 Mar 27 20:57 goLinkManager.pyc
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 0 Mar 27 17:52 init_.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 917 Mar 27 18:21 main.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 498 Mar 27 18:12 main.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 4996 Mar 27 18:05 _pycache
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 937 Mar 27 20:54 SimpleControl.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jnano jnano 1940 Mar 27 21:32 SimpleTeleop.py
jnano@macbotl0:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/golink$ python3 SimpleControl.py
```

#### Enter left and 25.

left

25

Notice that the left motor begins rotating.



Stop the rotation.

Ensure that you are able to rotate both the left and right wheels and read corresponding encoder data.

Open the Python script to learn how the library is being used behind the scenes.

```
golink
nano@macbotl0:~/macbot/SDKs/golink_env/golink$ gedit SimpleControl.py
                                                 SimpleControl.py
         Open 🕶
                                                                                  Save
                  Ð
                                                                                          =
                                                                                                    import goLinkManager as glm
       import time
           name
                  == " main ":
          POWER DIST = 2
          MOTOR DRIVER LEFT = 4
          MOTOR DRIVER RIGHT = 5
          systemNodeIds = [POWER_DIST, MOTOR_DRIVER_LEFT, MOTOR_DRIVER_RIGHT]
          man = glm.GoLinkManager(systemNodeIds)
          man.startNodes()
          motorChoice = input("Which motor would you like to control? (left/right): ")
          canIndex = None
          if (motorChoice == "left" or motorChoice == "LEFT" or motorChoice == "l" or motorChoice ==
              canIndex = MOTOR DRIVER LEFT
          elif (motorChoice == "right" or motorChoice == "RIGHT" or motorChoice == "r" or motorChoice ==
       'R"):
              canIndex = MOTOR DRIVER RIGHT
          motorSpeed = input("Speed? (%): ")
          while 1:
              if man.isNewData(canIndex):
                  print(man.getData(canIndex))
                  man.setData(canIndex, {'spr' : int(motorSpeed)})
               time.sleep(0.05)
                                                            Python ▼ Tab Width: 8 ▼
                                                                                       Ln 1, Col 1
                                                                                                       INS
```

#### Exercise B:

Record a short video of the wheels responding to your speed change commands. Include this video with your submission.

## Coordinating Motors using Python

Launch the SimpleTeleop Python script as superuser.

sudo python3 ./SimpleTeleop.py

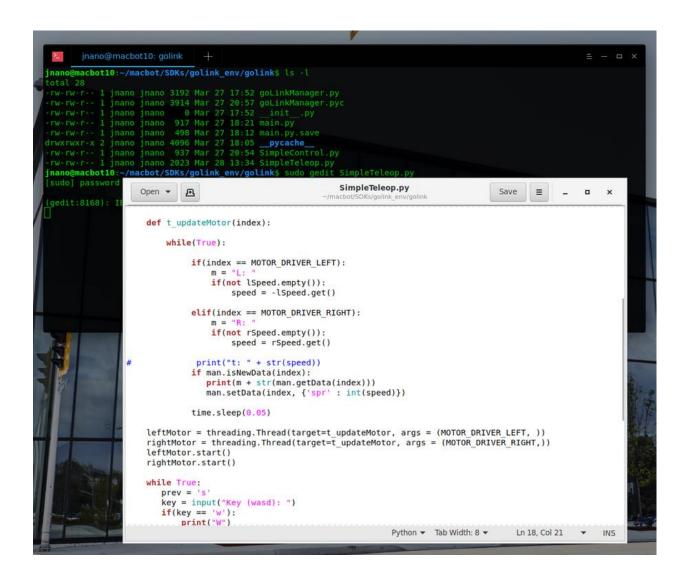
The script reads keyboard input to change direction. Type the following commands:

```
w + <enter>
s + <enter>
a + <enter>
d + <enter>
s + <enter>
```

Once you've established that the teleop controls operate correctly, place the MacBot on the floor and attempt to drive it around, near your lab station.

Next, open the SimpleTeleop Python script using a text editor.

```
ls -l
sudo gedit SimpleTeleop.py
```



Notice how each control loop is threaded. Your keyboard interactions are loaded into globally accessible queues. The bottom of each queue (lowest index) is then read during each control loop for the respective motor. The change is then communicated over the CAN bus.

#### Exercise C:

Record a short video of the MacBot being teleoperated on the floor from your PC over the network. Include this video with your submission.

# **ROS Integration**