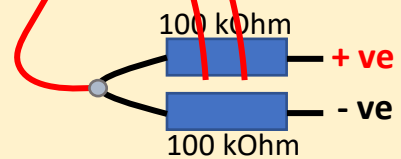


3.6V Lithium battery connection (rechargeable only)

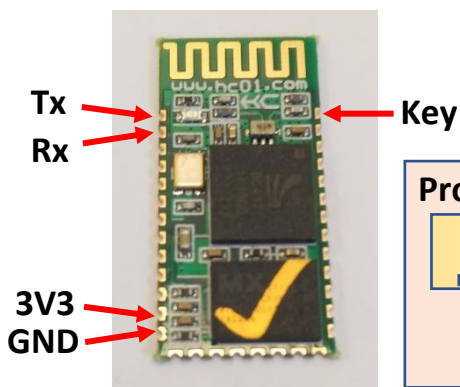
USB recharge socket (5V maximum)

Power switch

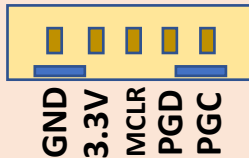
Battery voltage sense

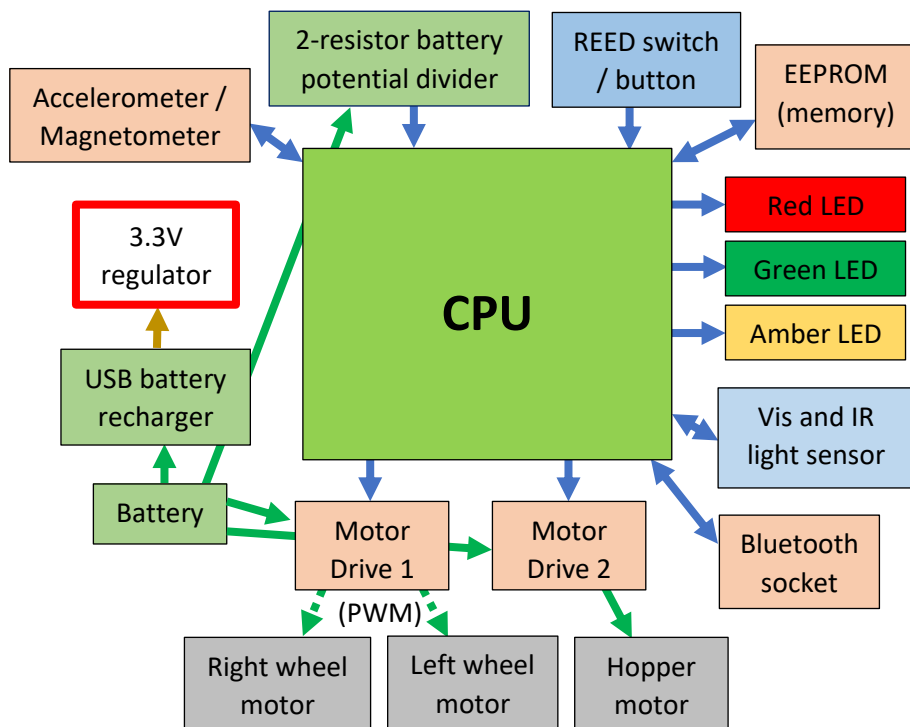


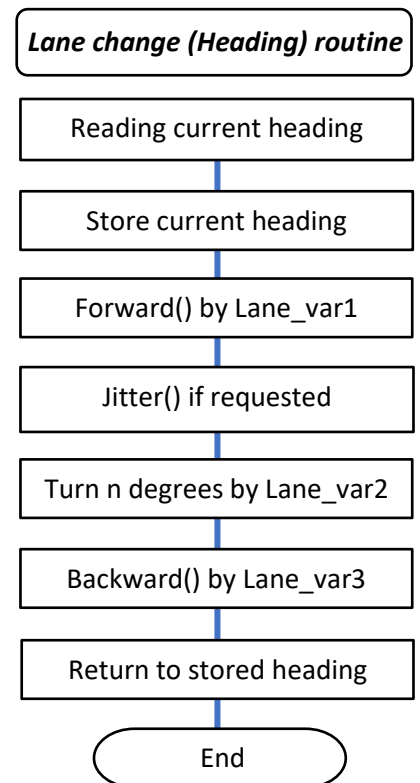
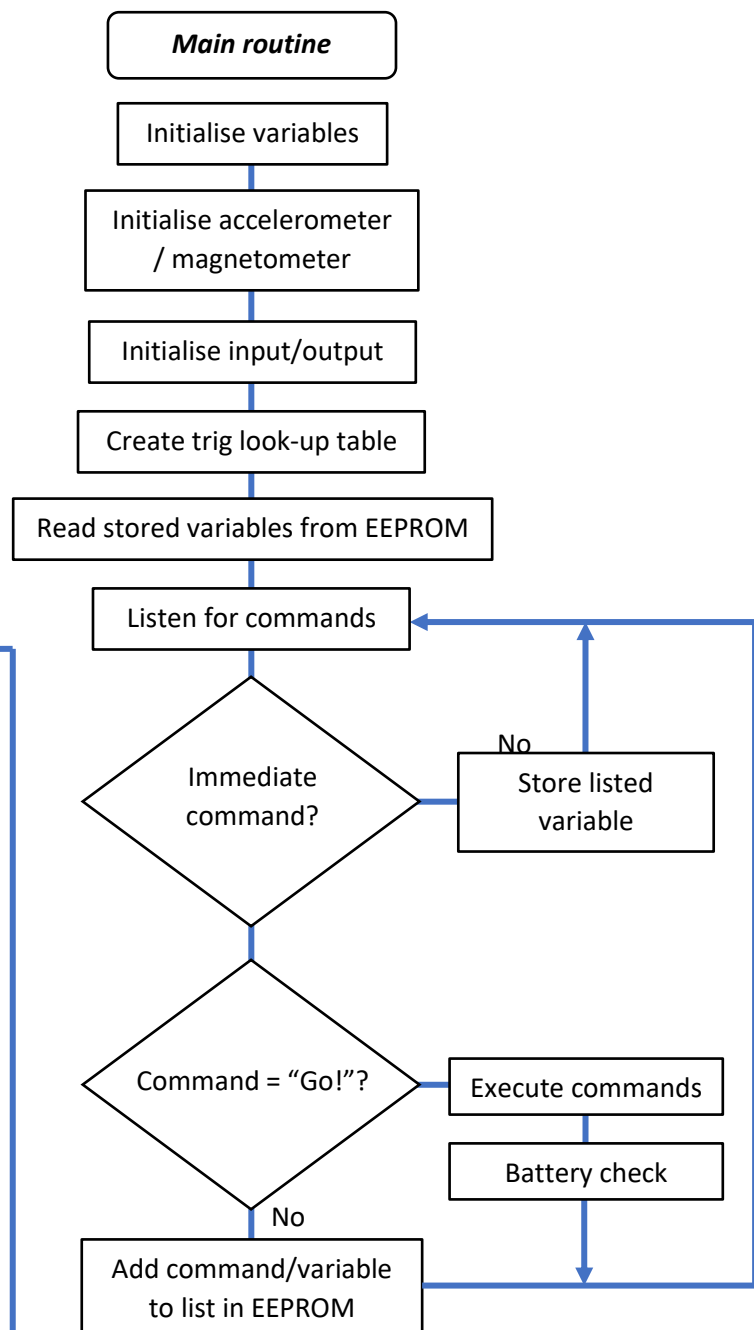
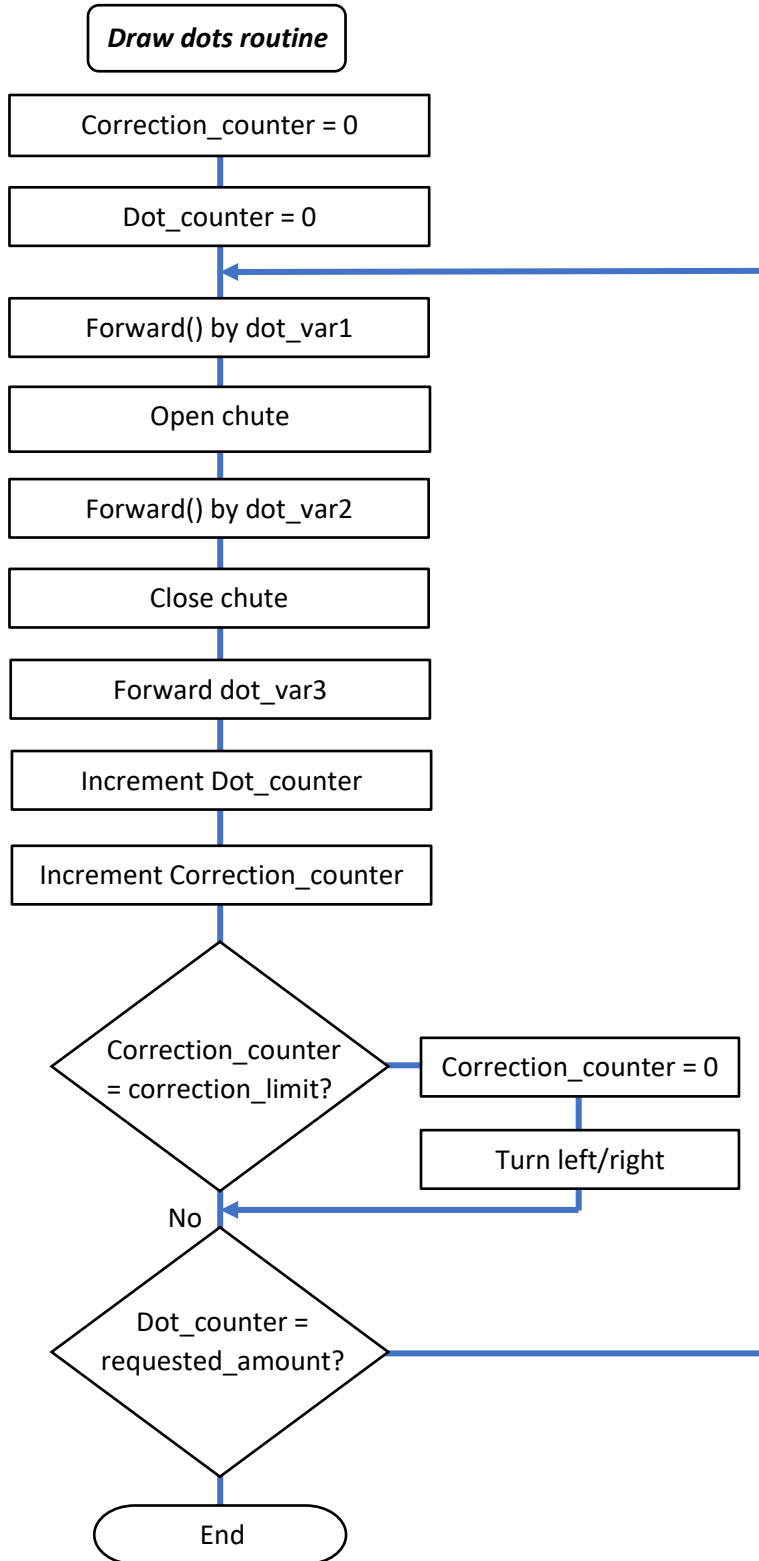
Note that these 100 kOhm resistors are additional to the circuit design and sit on top

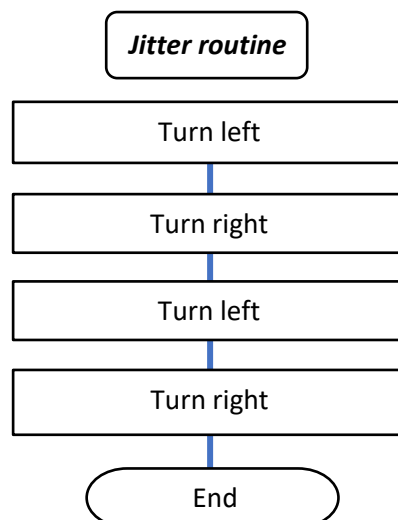
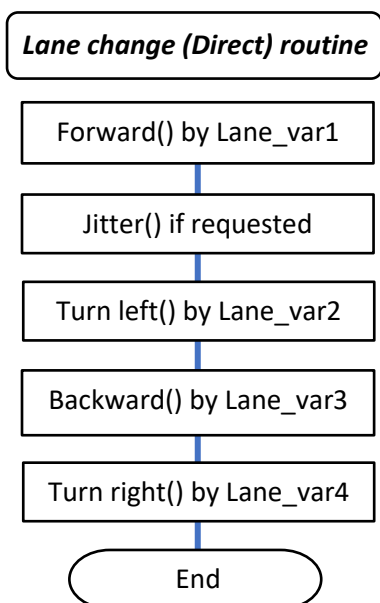
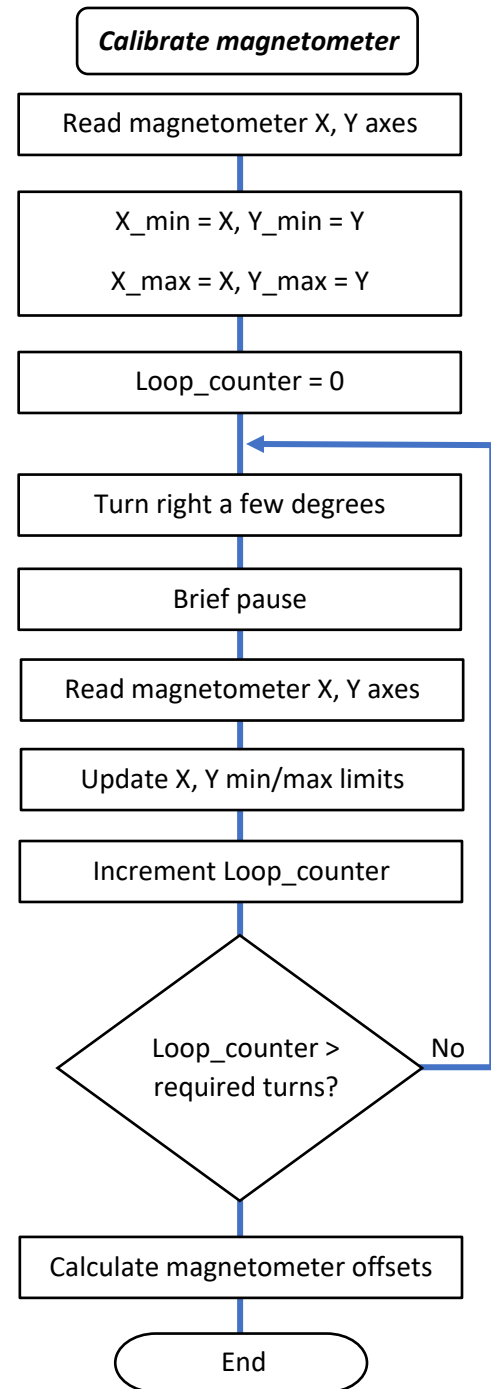
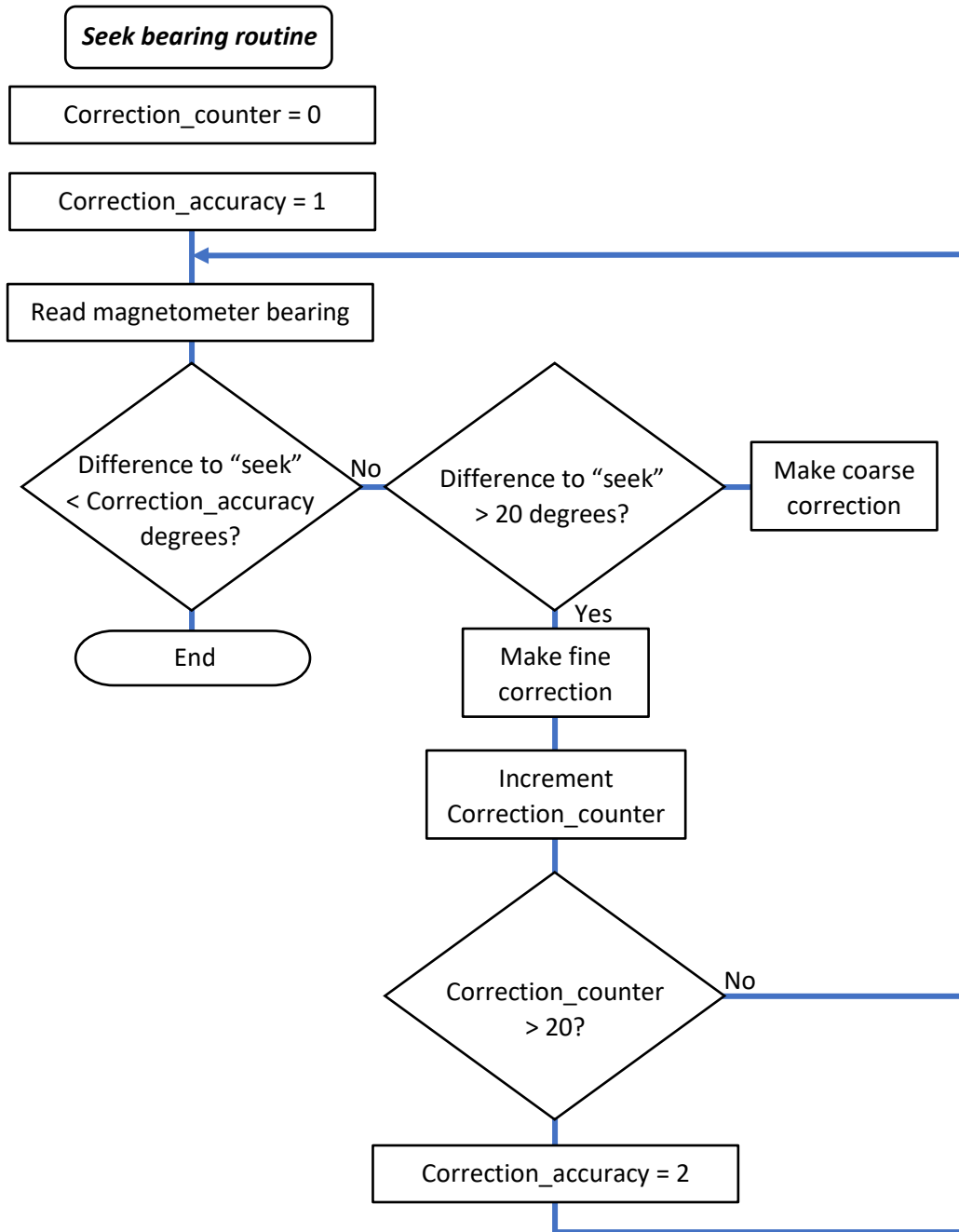


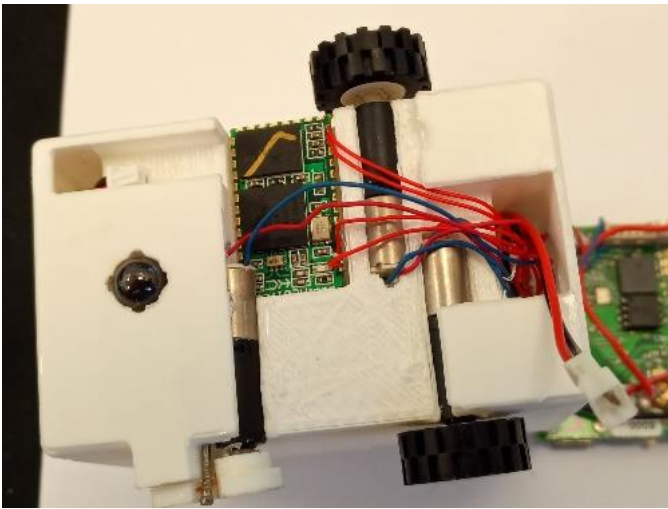
Programmer port











The Sustainabot circuit board, 29 x 36 x 10 mm, consists of two layers, with parts mounted on both top and bottom sides. These consist of a number of primary components, including a Microchip 8-bit microcontroller (PIC18F26J53) with multiple in-built timing modules, and highly flexible and programmable I/O ports. In addition to the CPU, there is an EEPROM (24AA1025 / 128kB) for storing command data, MEMS accelerometer/magnetometer (LSM303DLHC) for determining compass heading, H-bridge DC motor drivers (DRV8833), digital visible light and infrared, dual light sensor (APDS9300), 3.3V/200 mA buck-boost regulator, and a lithium recharge controller chip (BQ24074RGTR). The CPU is clocked by an external 16 MHz crystal (PLL disabled), drives 3 coloured LEDs for status indication, transfers sensor data to/from MEMS sensors and EEPROM for storage via the I2C protocol, and enables various combinations of motor drive via the two dual-port H-bridge controllers (only 3 of the 4 ports connected in-circuit).

The battery monitor, while not necessary for the operation of the system, was added as an extra feature for the user. It simply consists of two 100 kOhm resistors, connected in-series across the battery terminals, with the centre tap feeding to one of the analogue input ports on the CPU. This is a simple potential divider ($/2$) enabling the overall battery potential to be measured with an ADC on the CPU, by utilising a reference of 3.3V from the board's regulator. The firmware is configured to give the user a warning via the Bluetooth port when the voltage is at, or below, 3.3V, and that a recharge is required to maintain sufficient drive current to the wheel motors.

The Bluetooth module is an HC-05 board, used for transmission/reception of data. This was configured for serial communications at 38400 BAUD; any higher and the bit-error rate would have been too great due to mismatch from the CPU's 16 MHz timing crystal. This board, or any similarly 3.3V powered Bluetooth serial communications board can be used in conjunction with the controller circuit.

Some of the CPU's ports were reconfigured to make use of one of the internal timers, to output sub-microsecond-width pulses at frequencies of 100s of kHz. This, together with the ability to define different pulse-widths for different I/O ports that rapidly switch the H-bridge circuits on/off i.e. vary the 'duty cycle', enabled us to finely control the mean current delivered to each of the two motors, a technique commonly referred to as pulse width modulation (PWM). The H-bridge controllers in the circuit are configured to operate in two different modes. For the chute, this is in a full-on/off mode, while the drive wheels operate under PWM. The advantage of using PWM is that it also allows for compensation of different motor characteristics due to subtle size variations between the motors, in addition to independent drive at different speeds/directions for slow curved turning.

The drive motors we used on this device are 700:1 planetary-drive geared motors, lightweight, and with enough torque to manoeuvre a small robot around a flat surface.

The on-board magnetometer can be used to give the robot a sense of directionality, although, sensing magnetic fields can be prone to confusion due to ferrous material such as metal table legs, under-table support structures, all capable of causing a shift locally in the Earth's magnetic field. This aside, the robot can be instructed to turn in a circle of more than 360 degrees, collecting magnetic data on the two axes parallel to the ground. From this, it is able to determine any hard- or soft-iron offsets and correct for them.

Upon switch-on:

- Variables are initialised
- Wheel outputs to control H-bridges are set off/low
- Duty cycle for the forward and backward motion PWMs are set to EEPROM stored values
- Magnetometer is initialised
- Green LED is switched on
- An array is filled with a trigonometric look-up table
- Listens for user-defined commands until "Go" command received
- Execute list of commands
- Check battery voltage (if 2-resistor battery mod fitted)
- Return to "Listens for user-defined commands"

Commands are sent from a phone or PC via Bluetooth/serial link as a series of 5 characters, each beginning with \$, followed by the command character, and then 3 numerical digits i.e. \$F030

List of available commands (### values are not used, xxx values are used):

Immediate commands (not added to the command list)

J###	Display this list of commands
L###	List commands currently stored in EEPROM
C###	Clear all stored commands
G###	Execute all stored commands
Oxxx (zero)	Perform a compass calibration for xxx turn units (calculate magnetometer offsets)
Z###	Request current heading
I###	Battery voltage request
K###	Continuously seek random headings (until magnet switch)
t###	List Wheel calibration and Drop/Stop values
qxxx	Left wheel Forward set to xxx (duty cycle – 100 to 255)
wxxx	Left wheel Backward set to xxx (duty cycle – 100 to 255)
rxxx	Right wheel Forward set to xxx (duty cycle – 100 to 255)
exxx	Right wheel Backward set to xxx (duty cycle – 100 to 255)
Vxxx	Turning duration per unit (for Left/Right) to xxx
uxxx	Turning duration per unit (for Heading) to xxx

Stored/sequence commands

Fxxx	Forward by xxx units
Bxxx	Backward by xxx units
Oxxx	Left turn by xxx units
Pxxx	Right turn by xxx units
Hxxx	Turn to heading xxx degrees (0 – 255, not 0 – 359)
axxx	Left wheel Forward set xxx (temporary; allow differential wheel speeds)
sxxx	Left wheel Backward set xxx (temporary; allow differential wheel speeds)
dxxx	Right wheel Forward set xxx (temporary; allow differential wheel speeds)
fxxx	Right wheel Backward set xxx (temporary; allow differential wheel speeds)
gxxx	Reset forward/backward correction to stored values (make forward straight again)
D###	Start drop (uses chute open time defined by \$Txxx)
S###	Stop drop (uses chute close time defined by \$Sxxx)
Txxx	Chute open set to xxx (motor engaged for xxx time units)
Uxxx	Chute close set to xxx (motor engaged for xxx time units – likely longer than \$Txxx)

Qxxx	Perform Lane change (non-heading version) xxx = 1 for jitter
Rxxx	Perform Lane change (Heading version) xxx = 1 for jitter
4xxx	Lane change var 1 set to xxx how much to initially move forward
5xxx	Lane change var 2 set to xxx how much to turn left
6xxx	Lane change var 3 set to xxx how much to move forward
7xxx	Lane change var 4 set to xxx how much to finally turn right
@xxx	Draw dots with xxx = number of dots to draw
1xxx	Draw dot var 1 set to xxx how much to initially move forward
2xxx	Draw dot var 2 set to xxx how much to move forward, chute open
3xxx	Draw dot var 3 set to xxx how much to initially move forward, chute closed
8xxx	Draw dot left/right correction (100+/-) after \$9xxx dots, perform a left/right turn
9xxx	Draw dots, turn correction dot counter, before performing a turn correction
lxxx	Jitter strength set to xxx How much it turns left/right
Exxx	Jitter
pxxx	Pause (xxx * 50) milliseconds