



DesignNews

Exploring Smart AI Lens with the Micro:bit

DAY 4: Building a Recognition Application Workflow

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Dr. Don Wilcher

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Patreon Page:

<https://www.patreon.com/c/DrDon683>

Course Kit and Materials

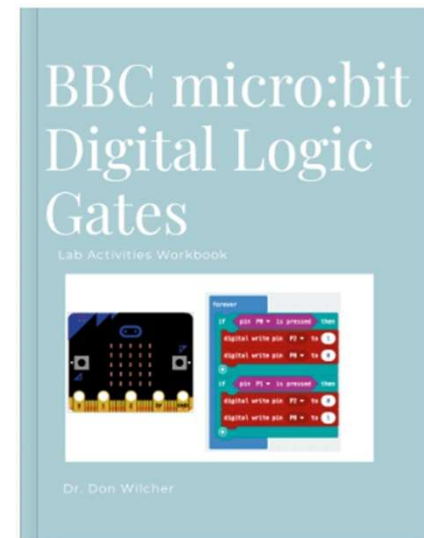
Micro:bit Version 2



Smart-AI Lens



BBC Micro:bit Digital Logic Gates Lab Activities Workbook



Keyestudio 37-In-1 Sensor Starter Kit

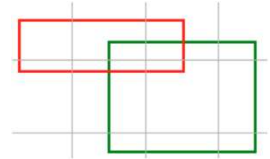
Research Perspective

“A single neural network predicts bounding boxes and class probabilities, directly from full images in one evaluation[1].”

Agenda:

- What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow?
- Microsoft MakeCode Python Smart AI-Lens APIs
- Lab: Enhanced Characteristic Learn Device

What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow



A Recognition Application Model Workflow is a structured process used to:

- a) design
- b) train
- c) evaluate,
- d) and deploy models.

The purpose of the workflow is to identify or classify patterns, objects, signals, or behaviors from input data (images, audio, text, sensor data, etc.).

Question 1

Which statement is correct?

- a) A Recognized Application Model Workflow is a structured process.**
- b) A Recognized Application Model Workflow is a stochastic process.**
- c) A Recognized Application Model Workflow is a linear process.**
- d) none of the above**



What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



1. Define the Problem

Objective: What needs to be recognized? (e.g., objects in images, keywords in audio, gestures, equipment faults, or handwritten digits).

Type of Recognition Model:

- a) Classification (assign input to a category)
- b) Detection (locate and classify objects within input)
- c) Identification/Verification (confirm identity or authenticity)

What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



2. Data Collection

Gather datasets relevant to the problem:

a) Images: Labeled photos for object or face recognition.

b) Text: Documents, speech transcripts, or labeled phrases.

c) Signals: Sensor readings, EEG, vibration data, etc.

Ensure data quality and variety (different lighting, backgrounds, noise conditions).

What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



3. Data Preprocessing

- a) Cleaning: Remove duplicates, fix corrupted samples, normalize values.
- b) Augmentation: Generate variations (rotated images, noisy signals, paraphrased text) to improve robustness.
- c) Feature Engineering: Extract meaningful features (e.g., MFCC for speech, edges for vision, statistical measures for signals).
- d) Labeling: Ensure accurate, consistent annotations (often the bottleneck in recognition workflows).

What is MFCC?

Mel-Frequency Cepstral Coefficients are numerical features extracted from audio signals that represent the sound's spectral characteristics in a way that mimics human hearing.



What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



4. Model Selection

Traditional Methods (feature-based):

- a) K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN)
- b) Support Vector Machines (SVM)
- c) Hidden Markov Models (HMMs)

Deep Learning Methods:

- a) Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) → Image/object recognition
- b) Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), Transformers → Speech/text recognition
- c) Hybrid architectures → Multimodal recognition (e.g., vision + language)

What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



5. Model Training

Split dataset:

- a) Training,
 - b) Validation,
 - c) Testing (common ratios: 70/15/15).
- Choose loss function (e.g., cross-entropy for classification).
 - Use optimization algorithm (SGD, Adam).
 - Monitor metrics (accuracy, F1-score, precision, recall, AUC).
 - Apply regularization (dropout, weight decay, data augmentation).

What is SGD?

Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD) is an iterative optimization algorithm used in machine learning to train models by minimizing a loss function



What is Adam?

Adaptive Moment Estimation (Adam) is a popular and efficient optimization method used to train deep learning models by adjusting each parameter's learning rate.



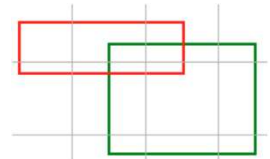
Question 2

Which statement is correct about a Stochastic Gradient Descent?

- a) An interactive optimization algorithm used in AL**
- b) An interactive optimization algorithm used in AI/ML.**
- c) An interactive optimization algorithm used in ML.**
- d) none of the above**



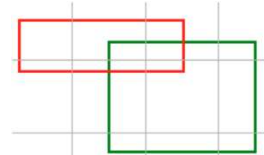
What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



6. Model Evaluation

- Compare model predictions with ground truth labels.
- Use confusion matrices for classification problems.
- Measure robustness under variations:
 - a) noise
 - b) distortion,
 - c) adversarial conditions.
- Perform cross-validation for stability check.

What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



Confusion
Matrix
Example

		Predicted Value	
		Yes	No
Actual Value	Yes	True Positives	False Negatives
	No	False Positives	True Negatives

Image: [Accessible AI](#)

What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



7. Model Deployment

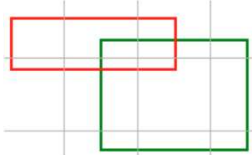
- Export trained model into production environment:
 - a) On-device (edge AI): Lightweight, optimized models (TensorFlow Lite, ONNX).
 - b) Cloud-based: REST APIs for large-scale recognition.
- Integrate with user applications (e.g., mobile app, industrial monitoring dashboard).

What is an ONNX?

Open Neural Network Exchange (ONNX) is a standard format and open standard for machine learning models that allows for interoperability between different deep learning frameworks like PyTorch and TensorFlow. It provides a common, intermediate representation (IR) for models, making them portable and deployable across various platforms and devices, and includes a high-performance ONNX Runtime for efficient deployment and inference.

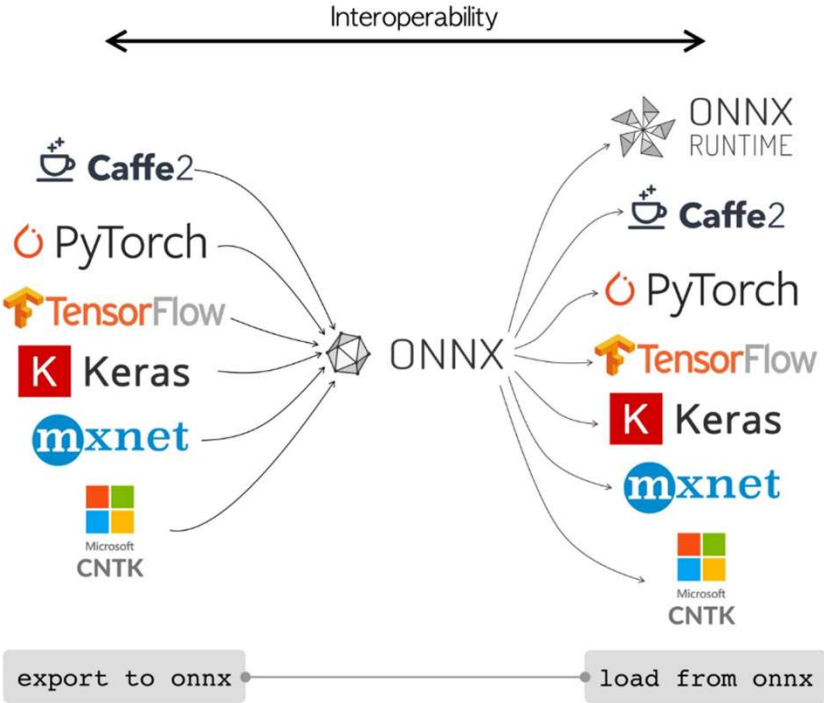


What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



ONNX Interoperability

Image: [ONNX](#)



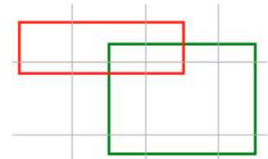
What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



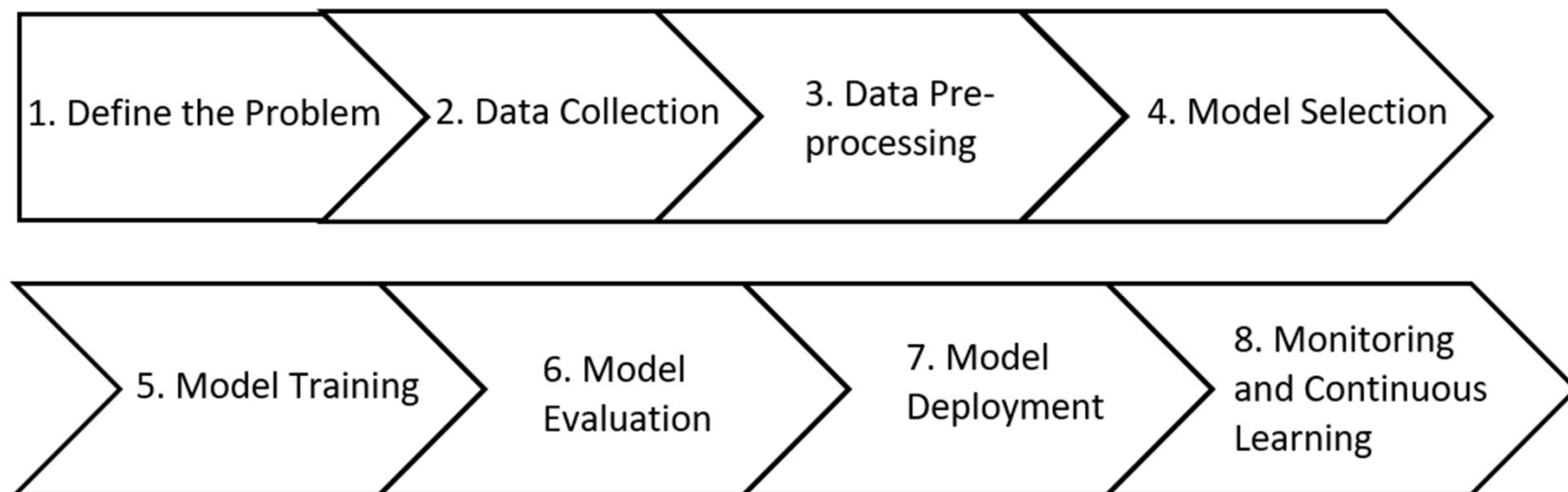
8. Monitoring & Continuous Learning

- a) Monitor real-world performance (drift in data distribution).
- b) Collect feedback to update training datasets.
- c) Re-train periodically with new data to maintain accuracy.

What Is a Recognition Application Model Workflow...



Recognition Application Model Workflow Visual Diagram



Question 3

In reviewing slide 24, which step is responsible for integrating with user applications?

- a) Data Collection**
- b) Data Preprocessing**
- c) Model Evaluation**
- d) Model Deployment**



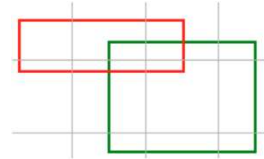
Microsoft MakeCode Python Smart AI Lens APIs



The Microsoft MakeCode Python Smart AI Lens APIs enable the Smart AI-Lens to function as a multi-mode recognition sensor (objects, faces, gestures, traffic signs, colors, tags, and more).



Microsoft MakeCode Python Smart AI Lens APIs...



Smart AI-Lens APIs

1. General Setup

- `PlanetX_AILens.init()`
 - Initialize the Smart AI-Lens module.
- `PlanetX_AILens.switch_function(mode: AILensFuncList)`
 - Switch AI-Lens to a specific recognition mode.
 - `mode` is selected from the `AILensFuncList` enum (see below)

2. Image Capture

- `PlanetX_AILens.get_image()`
 - Capture an image frame for processing.

3. Object Recognition

- `PlanetX_AILens.learn_object(id: number)`
 - Train AI-Lens to recognize an object with an assigned ID.
- `PlanetX_AILens.get_learn_data() -> List[number]`
 - Retrieve learned object recognition results.

Microsoft MakeCode Python Smart AI Lens APIs...



4. Face & Gesture Recognition

- `PlanetX_AILens.face_recognize() -> number`
 - Detect faces and return result codes.
- `PlanetX_AILens.gesture_recognize() -> number`
 - Detect hand gestures.

6. Traffic & Card Recognition

- `PlanetX_AILens.traffic_recognize() -> number`
 - Recognize traffic signs.
- `PlanetX_AILens.card_recognize() -> number`
 - Recognize number or symbol cards.

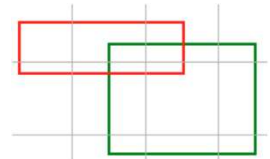
5. Color & Tag Recognition

- `PlanetX_AILens.color_recognize() -> number`
 - Detect basic colors (red, green, blue, etc.).
- `PlanetX_AILens.tag_recognize() -> number`
 - Detect AprilTags / markers.

7. Line Following & Ball Detection

- `PlanetX_AILens.line_recognize() -> number`
 - Line-following mode.
- `PlanetX_AILens.ball_recognize() -> number`
 - Detect balls (used in robotics navigation).

Microsoft MakeCode Python Smart AI Lens APIs...



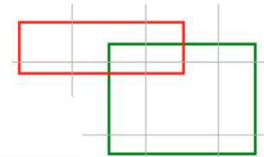
📌 Enum Types

AllLensFuncList

Used with `switch_function()` to select modes:

- Learn
- Face
- Gesture
- Color
- Tag
- Traffic
- Card
- Line
- Ball

Microsoft MakeCode Python Smart AI Lens APIs. . .



1. Initialization

```
python

from PlanetX_AILens import *

# Initialize Smart AI-Lens
PlanetX_AILens.init()
```

2. Switch Function Mode

```
python

from PlanetX_AILens import *

PlanetX_AILens.init()
# Switch AI-Lens to Face Recognition mode
PlanetX_AILens.switch_function(AILensFuncList.Face)
```

3. Image Capture

```
python

from PlanetX_AILens import *

PlanetX_AILens.init()
PlanetX_AILens.switch_function(AILensFuncList.Learn)

while True:
    # Capture frame
    PlanetX_AILens.get_image()
```

Microsoft
MakeCode
Python
Examples

Microsoft MakeCode Python Smart AI Lens APIs...



4. Object Recognition

```
python

from PlanetX_AILens import *

PlanetX_AILens.init()
PlanetX_AILens.switch_function(AILensFuncList.Learn)

# Teach the lens object ID 1
PlanetX_AILens.learn_object(1)

# Get recognition results
result = PlanetX_AILens.get_learn_data()
if result[0] == 1:
    display.show(Image.HAPPY)
else:
    display.show(Image.SAD)
```

5. Face Recognition

```
python

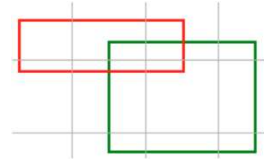
from PlanetX_AILens import *

PlanetX_AILens.init()
PlanetX_AILens.switch_function(AILensFuncList.Face)

while True:
    if PlanetX_AILens.face_recognize() == 1:
        display.show(Image.HAPPY)
    else:
        display.show(Image.SAD)
```

Microsoft
MakeCode
Python
Examples

Microsoft MakeCode Python Smart AI Lens APIs...



6. Gesture Recognition

```
python

from PlanetX_AILens import *

PlanetX_AILens.init()
PlanetX_AILens.switch_function(AILensFuncList.Gesture)

while True:
    gesture = PlanetX_AILens.gesture_recognize()
    if gesture == 1:
        display.show(Image.ARROW_N)
    elif gesture == 2:
        display.show(Image.ARROW_E)
```

7. Color Recognition

```
python

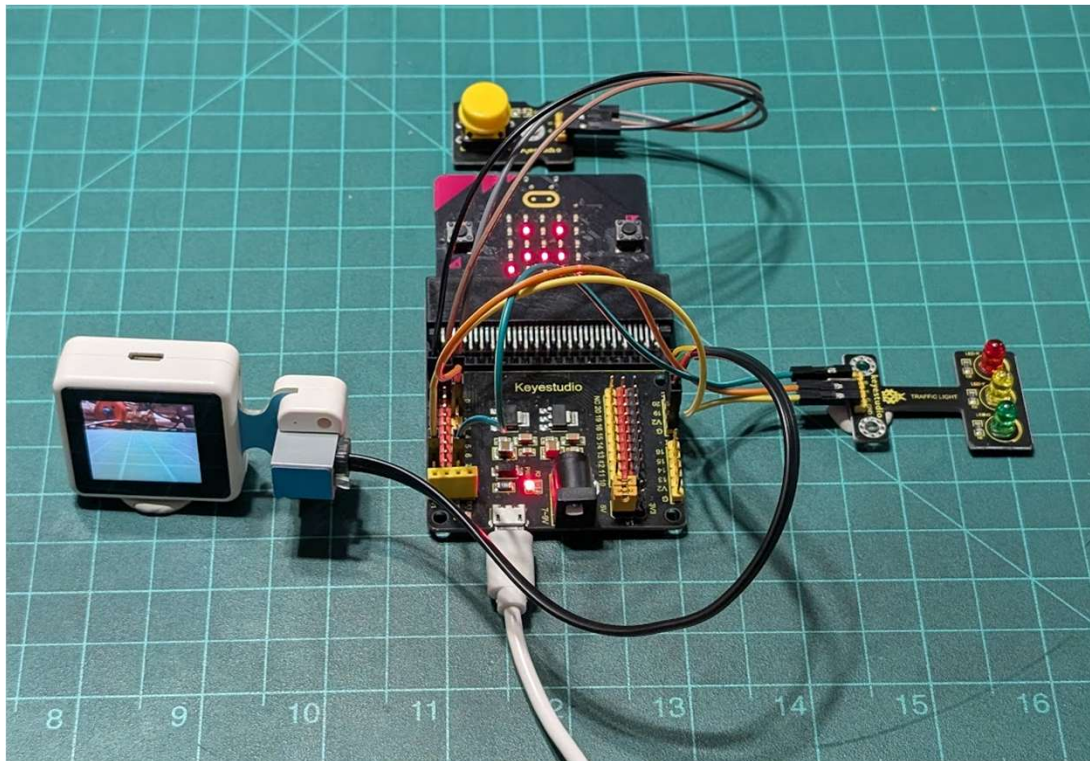
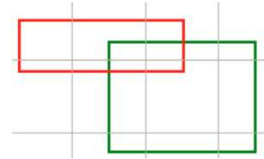
from PlanetX_AILens import *

PlanetX_AILens.init()
PlanetX_AILens.switch_function(AILensFuncList.Color)

while True:
    color = PlanetX_AILens.color_recognize()
    if color == 1:
        display.show(Image.HEART) # Red
    elif color == 2:
        display.show(Image.HAPPY) # Green
```

Microsoft
MakeCode
Python
Examples

Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device



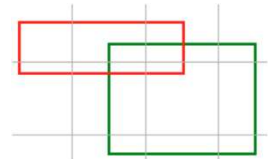
Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device



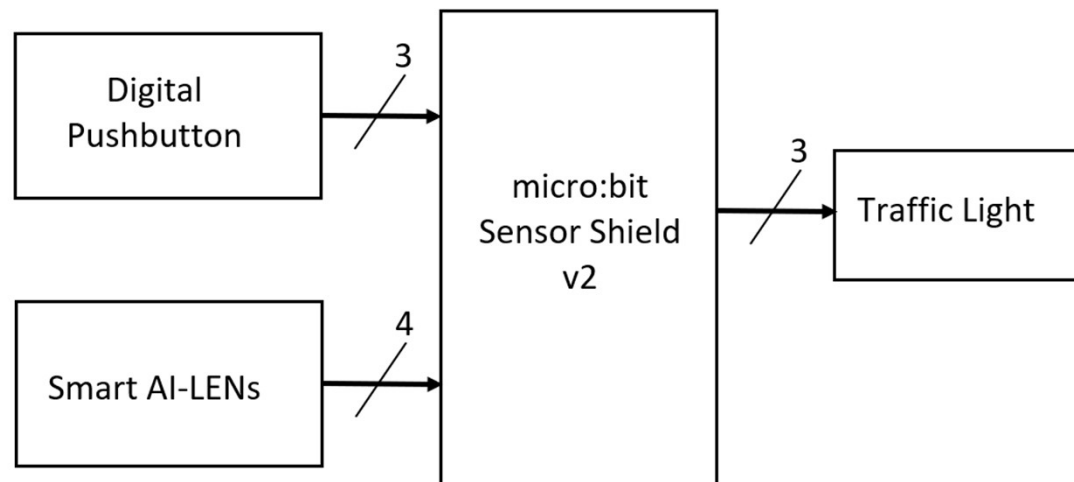
Participant Learning Objectives:

- Participants will learn to wire the Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device.
- Participants will learn how to use the Microsoft MakeCode Python to build the Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device.
- Participants will learn to implement a learning event on recognizing an object using the Smart AI-Lens to Micro:bit Sensor Shield.
- Participants will learn to view the Confidence Level on the Characteristic Learn Device.

Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device...



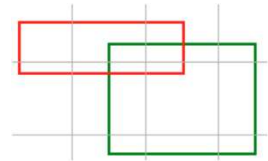
Concept Block Diagram for an Enhanced Characteristics Learn Demonstrator



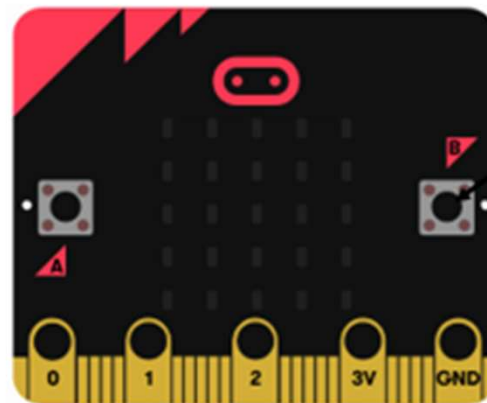
Operation:

A press/release on Digital Pushbutton, will allow the Smart-AI Lens to capture and store an object's image. Placing the object in front of the Smart-AI Lens will allow the micro:bit to display a Smiley face and turn on the Green LED. No object present or the incorrect object will display a Sad face on the micro:bit's 5x5 LED matrix and turn off the Green LED.

Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device...



User Interface (UI) of Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device

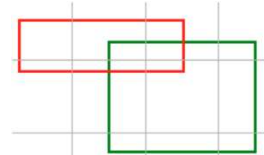


Button B:
Quick Check of
Confidence Level

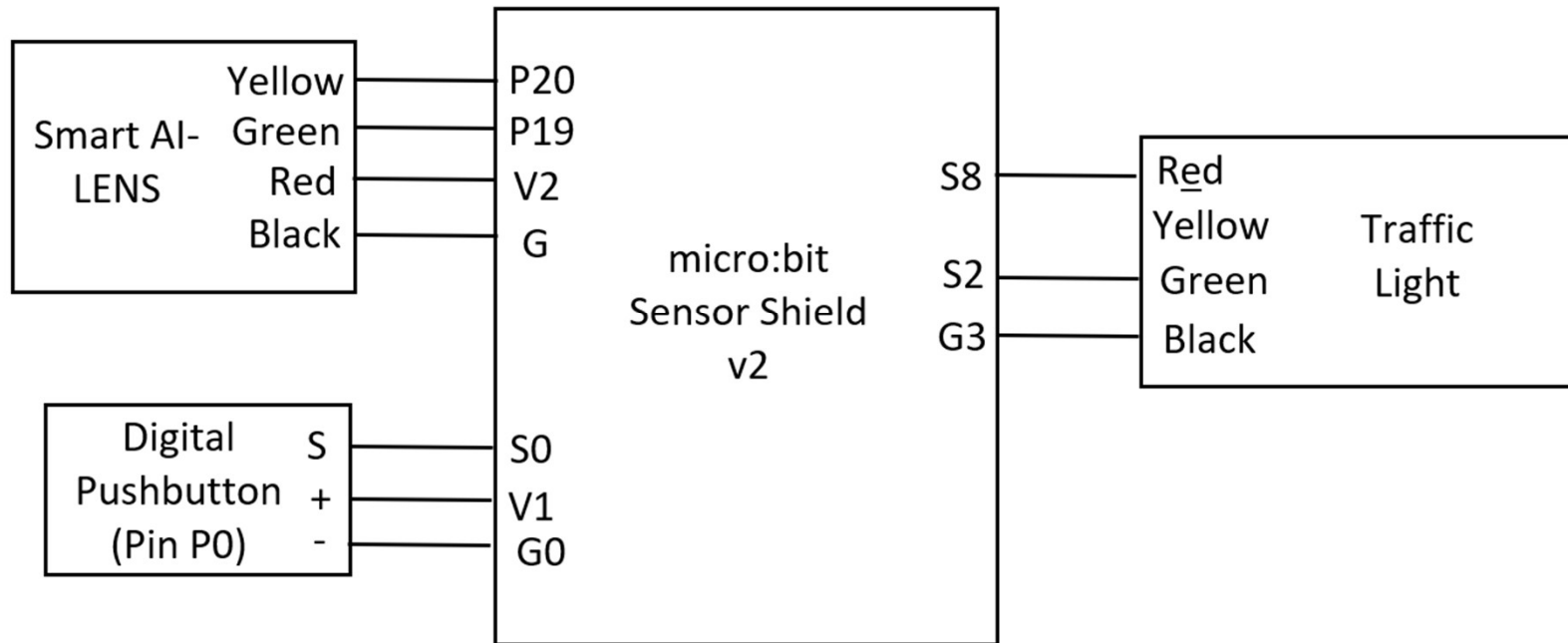
Operation:

Pressing Button B will display a confidence level (in percentage value) on recognizing the image/object placed in front of the Smart-AI Lens.

Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device...



Electrical Wiring Diagram



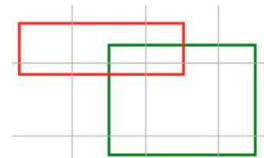
Question 4

How many wires are required to attach the Traffic Light to the micro:bit sensor shield?

- a) 4
- b) 3
- c) 2
- d) none of the above

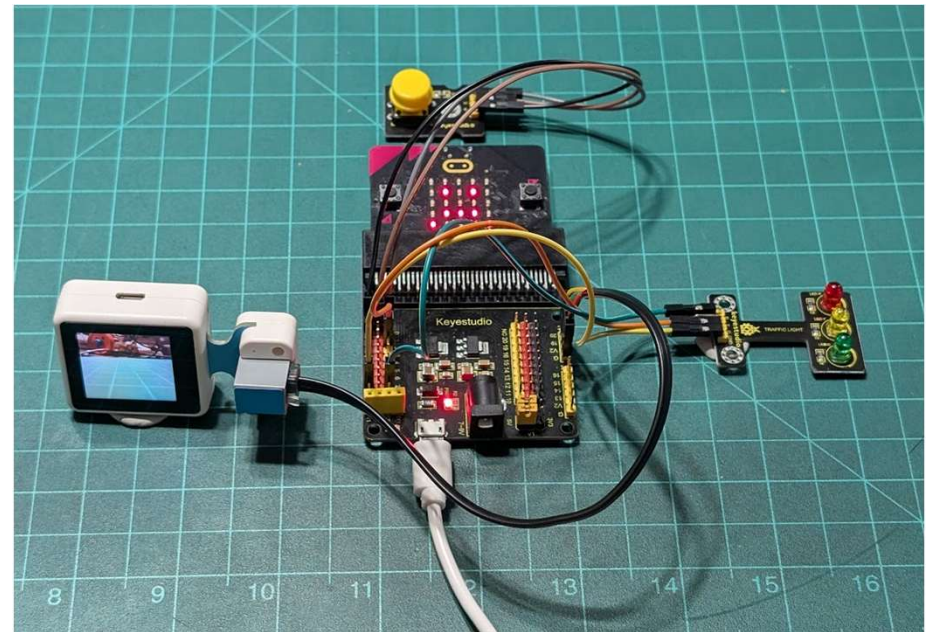
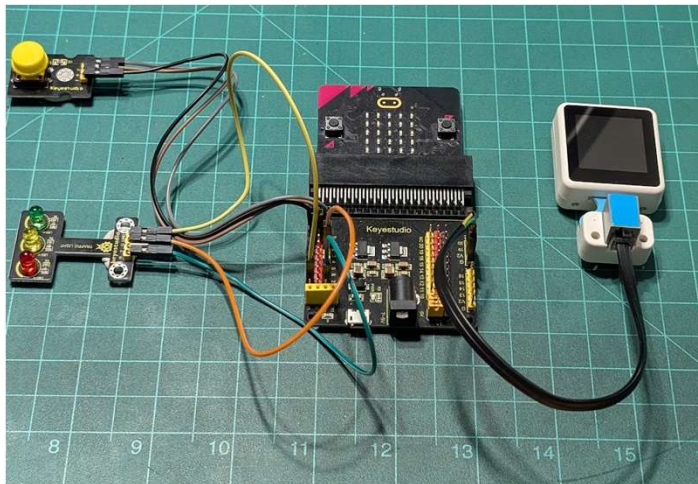


Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device...



Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device Demonstrator: Final Wired Device

Smart AI-Lens, Digital Pushbutton Switch, and Traffic Light wired to the Micro:bit Sensor Shield



Powered ON Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device ₃₉

Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device...



Setup Procedure

1. Go to Microsoft MakeCode: micro:bit and open a new project.
2. Click on the Python button to open a new editor.
3. Copy and paste the Enhanced Characteristics Learn Python code from the text file into the editor.
4. Add the PlanetX-AI extension in the Make Code Python project before compiling. Note: The extension provides the PlanetX-AI Lens API to the programming environment.
5. Attach the micro:bit to the code development laptop computer or desktop PC USB port.
6. Download the Enhanced Characteristics Learn code to the micro:bit (Click the Download button)
7. Insert the micro:bit into the Sensor Shield. Attach the USB cable to the Sensor Shield's USB connector.

Learn Mode

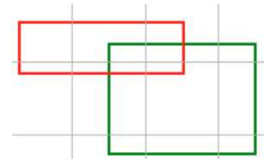
Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device...



1. Place an object in front of the Smart AI-Lens.
2. Press/release Digital Pushbutton. A heart will be displayed on the micro:bit's 5x5 LED display, and the Red LED will turn on briefly.
Note: the object is stored as an image on the micro:bit.
2. Press Button B. The number 79 will scroll on the LED matrix. This number is the confidence level..
4. Place the learned object from Step 1 in front of the Smart AI-Lens.
5. A smiley face will be displayed on the micro:bit's LED matrix. The Green LED will turn on.

Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device...

Enhanced Characteristics Learn Python Code pasted onto the editor



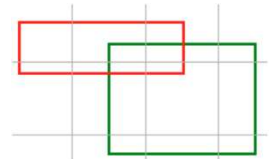
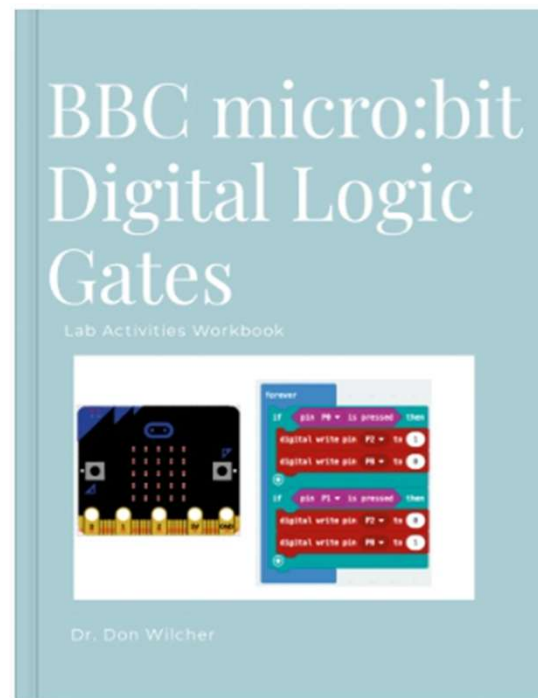
```
1 # Button B: optional quick visual check of confidence (press to display confidence)
2
3 def on_button_pressed_b():
4     global conf
5     conf = PlanetX_AILens.object_confidence(PlanetX_AILens.learnID.ID1)
6     basic.show_number(conf)
7     basic.pause(1200)
8     basic.show_icon(IconNames.ASLEEP)
9     input.on_button_pressed(Button.B, on_button_pressed_b)
10
11 # Helper: Learn event using external pushbutton on P0
12 def check_pushbutton_learn():
13     if pins.digital_read_pin(DigitalPin.P0) == 0:
14         # pressed (active-low)
15         # learn into slot ID1
16         PlanetX_AILens.learn_object(PlanetX_AILens.learnID.ID1)
17         # turn on traffic light red LED (P8 HIGH)
18         pins.digital_write_pin(DigitalPin.P8, 1)
19         basic.show_icon(IconNames.HEART)
20         basic.pause(1500)
21         # reset state
22         pins.digital_write_pin(DigitalPin.P8, 0)
23         basic.show_icon(IconNames.ASLEEP)
24     conf = 0
25 # PlanetX AI Lens - Characteristic Learn with Pushbutton and Traffic Light
```

Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device...

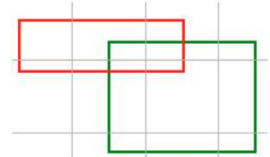
BBC Micro:bit Digital Logic Gate Lab Activities Workbook Challenge

Modify the Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device code, where pressing a crash sensor will turn display a check mark on an external red LED.

Page 34 provides an electrical wiring diagram to attach the crash sensor to the sensor shield.

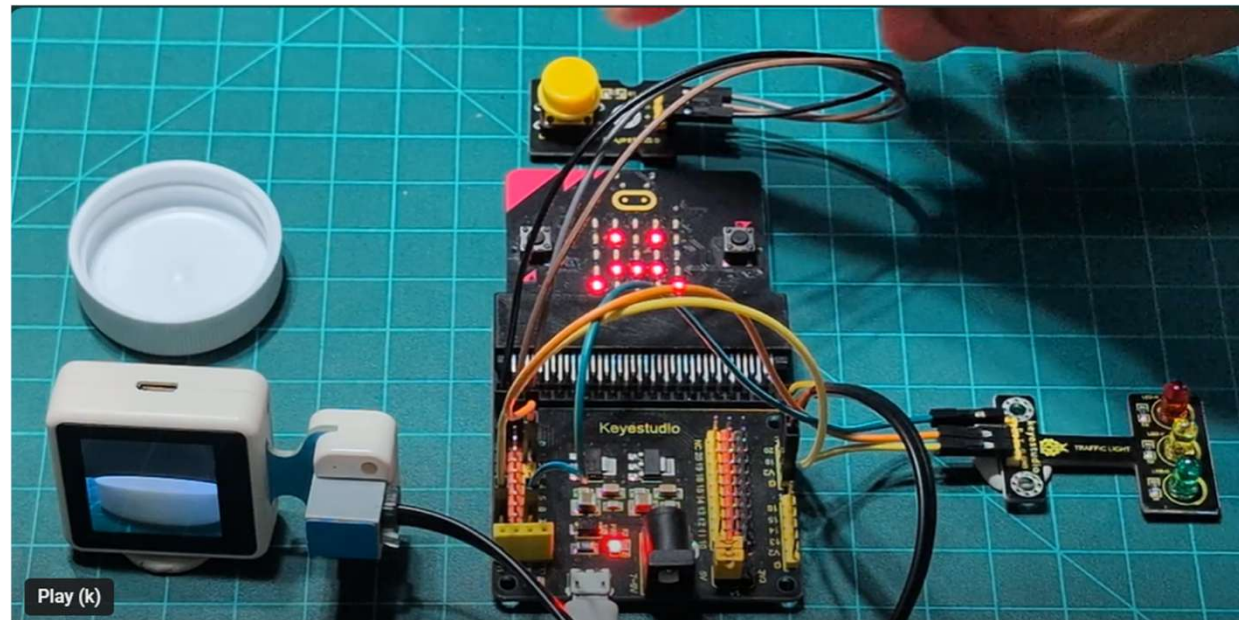


Lab: Enhanced Characteristics Learn Device...



Assembled and
Functionally
Enhanced
Characteristics Learn
Device Demonstrator

Watch the Video Clip!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqCyLkF2OPI>

Question 5

Which statement is incorrect?

- a) Press/release Crash Sensor, a heart will be displayed on the micro:bit.**
- b) Press Button B, and the number 79 will scroll on the LED matrix.**
- c) A smiley face will be displayed on the micro:bit's LED matrix.**
- d) none of the above**



Thank you for attending

Please consider the resources below:

[1] J. Redmon, S. Divvala, R. Girshick, and A. Farhadi, “You only look once: Unified, real-time object detection,” *arXiv:1506.02640* [cs.CV], Jun. 2016. [Online]. Available:

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1506.02640>

[2] [1] D. Wilcher, “Designs News September 25 webinar code,” GitHub repository, Sep. 2025. [Online]. Available: [https://github.com/DWilcher/DesignNews-](https://github.com/DWilcher/DesignNews-WebinarCode/blob/main/September_25_Webinar_Code.zip)

[WebinarCode/blob/main/September_25_Webinar_Code.zip](https://github.com/DWilcher/DesignNews-WebinarCode/blob/main/September_25_Webinar_Code.zip)



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