Getting Started with CANLight

Written by seth@mindsensors.com

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Overview

- Hardware and connections
- What is CAN?
- Setting up software
- Many example projects
- Guide to all features
- Eclipse shortcuts and useful tools
- Documentation, more resources, and getting help

Hardware Components

- roboRIO the robot controller
- PDP Power Distribution Panel
 - battery
- CANLight









Power Distribution Panel (PDP)

- Power comes from the battery to the Power Distribution Panel
- The PDP connects power to everything else on the robot
- Two of the items it will power are the roboRIO and the CANLight.





RoboRIO

- The roboRIO is your robot controller
- This is where your robot program is stored and what does all the processing
- The driver station will connect to this either through a Ethernet cable or over a wireless bridge.



CANLight

The CANLight is a CAN-based smart controller

for RGB LED strips

• It accepts power from the PDP via an XT60 connection

- It interfaces with the roboRIO over the CAN protocol
- The terminal block has four ports to connect the red, green, blue and ground wires from your RGB LED strip
 - red green blue, light-emitting diode

Connections

- Connect power from the PDP to the roboRIO and CANLight
- Connect the CANLight to the roboRIO with a CAN wire for communication
- Connect a battery to the PDP

RGB LED Strip Connection

- Of course you probably want to connect your RGB LED strip to the CANLight. Loosen the screws on the blue terminal, insert each wire, and tighten them.
- Make sure the CANLight is receiving enough amperage for the length of RGB LED strip you are using. A short strip will have no problems, with a very long one you may want to check it has enough power.
 - If the CANLight turns off when trying to set secondary colors or white, the strip is probably too long for the amount of power the CANLight is receiving.

What is CAN?

- CAN (Controller Area Network) is a communications protocol not unlike I2C or SPI you may have used in the past
- It is commonly found in vehicles
- Communication is performed over only two wires

CAN Wire

- A twisted pair of wires
- Red and black, or yellow and green
 - Red/Yellow: high
 - Black/Green: low
- Make sure polarity matches!

CAN Networks

- You can daisy-chain CAN devices
- The roboRIO has one CAN port. You can connect it to an SD540C motor controller, and connect that to a CANLight.
- However, this has negative implications for reliability. If the wire between the roboRIO and SD540C are severed (in this scenario) communication between the roboRIO and CANLight will also be terminated.
- While that might not be a huge issue in this case (if the lights go off the robot can still run), if multiple SD540C motor controllers are attached this problem may be more significant.

Solution to the Reliability Problem

- There are other network typologies
- An appealing option is to use a CAN splitter
- With this you connect the roboRIO and all CAN devices to the splitter

• Product name: CANSplitter

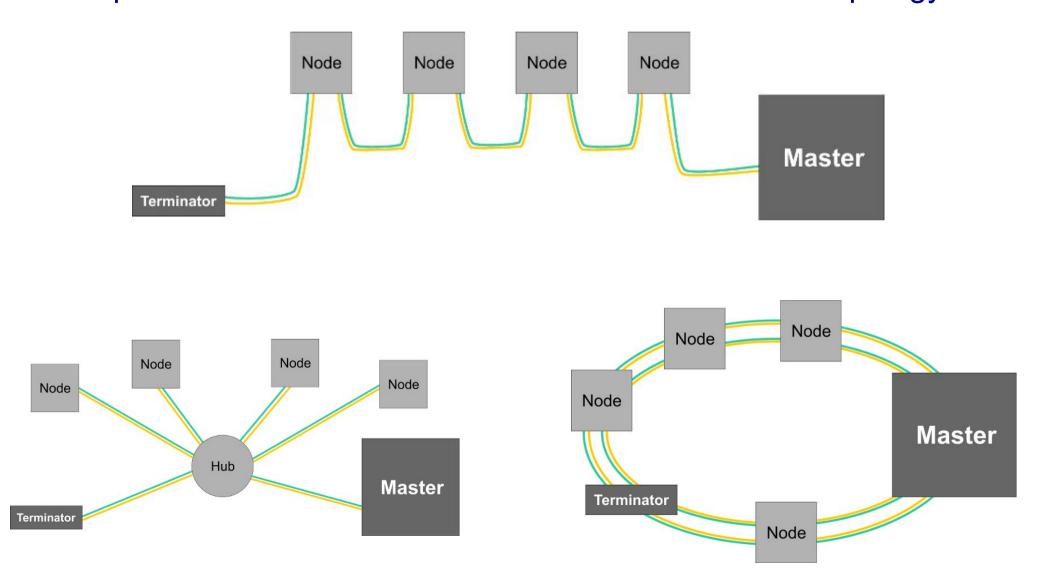
- http://www.mindsensors.com/frc/184-splitter-for-can-network

The 120Ω Resistor

- The CAN protocol requires a 120 ohm resistor on either end of the network in a chain. The roboRIO has one built in, so if you are daisychaining devices then you should end the chain with a second 120 ohm resistor.
- If you are using mindsensors.com's CAN Splitter, it already has a resistor built in (like the roboRIO)
 - You can activate or bypass it with a jumper.

Even Mode Information on CAN

http://www.mindsensors.com/content/86-can-and-its-topology



Finishing Connections

- With those few connections complete you should be able to move on to programming!
- The last physical connection is connecting the roboRIO to your programming computer
- The roboRIO has both a USB and an Ethernet port for networking

Wireless

- Wireless bridge
 - the roboRIO connects to a small router on the robot
 - another router connects to the driver station computer
 - the routers are configured to act as a direct connection
- You may consider using a hard-wired connection for reliability when programming

RoboRIO Routing

- You will need a host name to connect to your roboRIO
- Host names (replace #### with your team number)
 - roboRIO-####-FRC.local
 - **-** 10.##.##.20...
 - USB: 172.22.11.2
- More information

http://wpilib.screenstepslive.com/s/4485/m/13503/l/242608-roborio-networking

Programming

- Let's start programming! Here's an outline of the first-time setup steps
 - Install the FRC 2017 Update Suite
 - Image your roboRIO
 - Download and install Eclipse Mars (4.5)
 - Add WPILib Robot Development plugins to Eclipse
 - Add the mindsensors.com FRC Library
 - Create your first project
- WPI provides detailed tutorials on all of this http://wpilib.screenstepslive.com/s/4485/m/13503

FRC 2017 Update Suite

- This contains a lot of useful (and required) software this includes
 - LabVIEW and FRC Robot Simulator
 - FRC Driver Station
 - This is what you will use to control and enable your robot after writing a program for it
 - roboRIO Imaging Tool
 - Use this to put the 2017 FRC image on your roboRIO
- Check your Kit of Parts for a DVD and National Instruments' website

Eclipse

- Install Eclipse Mars
- Installing the WPILib plugins
 - Help → Install New Software...
 - Work with: http://first.wpi.edu/FRC/roborio/release/eclipse/
 - Check WPILib Robot Development, containing Robot C++ Development and Robot Java Development
 - Click next, finish installation process, restart Eclipse

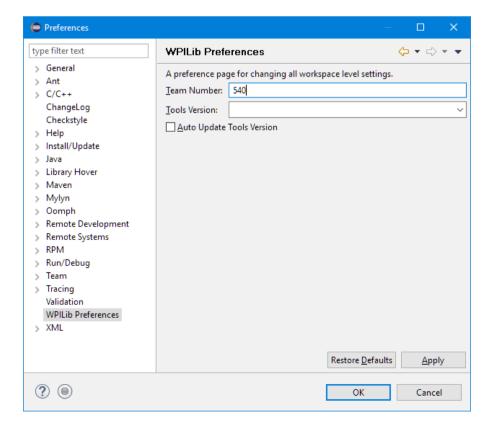
mindsensors.com FRC Library

- Download the zip at http://mindsensors.com/largefiles/FIRST/mindsensors.zip
- Copy the user folder to C:\Users\username\wpilib\user
 - If it prompts for existing files, replace them with new ones
- Find detailed instructions on our blog post http://www.mindsensors.com/blog/how-to/how-to-use-sd540c-and-canlight-with-roborio
- Documentation available at

http://www.mindsensors.com/reference/FRC/html/Java/http://www.mindsensors.com/reference/FRC/html/C++/

Eclipse Team Number Configuration

- If you haven't already set your team number, do so now before you forget
 - Window → Preferences
 - WPILib Preferences
 - Team Number: ####



Install Java

- If you are using Java, install Java on the roboRIO
- http://wpilib.screenstepslive.com/s/4485/m/13503/l/599747-installing-java-8-on-the-roborio-using-the-frc-roborio-java-installer-java-only
- https://goo.gl/xL7fZu

First Project

- Let's create a project to start experimenting with!
- New project
 - Ctrl+N or File → New → Other...
 - Open WPILib Robot C++/Java Development folder
 - Select Example Robot C++/Java Project
 - Getting Started template
 - Click Next to rename project or Finish

Open Robot.cpp / Robot.java

- In the Project Explorer window, open the project you just created (named Getting Started by default)
 - Don't see the Project Explorer?
 Window → Show View → Project Explorer
- Open the src folder
 - C++
 - Double-click Robot.cpp
 - Java
 - Open org.usfirst.frc.team####.robot package
 - Double-click Robot.java
- This is the file we will be replacing with some examples

C++

Java

```
#include "WPILib.h"

class Robot: public IterativeRobot {

private:
    void RobotInit() {
        printf("Hello, world!\n");
    }

};

START_ROBOT_CLASS(Robot)
```

```
package org.usfirst.frc.team####.robot;
import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
    public void robotInit() {
        System.out.println("Hello, world!");
    }
}
```

Hello World

C++ Java

The example project comes with a lot of example code in your robot (robot.java/Robot.cpp) file. Replace it with the code above. First we're just going to print "Hello, world!" to the console, classic.

In C++ we include the WPILib.h header file. In Eclipse you can select it and press F3 (or right-click → Open Declaration) to see what this file is. It just includes the rest of the WPI robotic library for FRC. Here we just need the IterativeRobot template, but we will be making use of the other components in the future.

In our Robot.cpp file we declare a Robot class that inherits from IterativeRobot. Ask one of your friendly upperclassmen programmers if you haven't used inheritance in object-oriented programming before. Everything that an IterativeRobot will have, our Robot will now have. Again, try F3 to learn what an IterativeRobot is (or wait for the next slide).

In our Robot class we define a private method RobotInit which will print "Hello, world!"

We end our file with a macro which will do some magic to make things simple for us (actually it's not magic, remember F3, you don't need to worry about this part though).

Java! Hello you highly-caffeinated friends. The description of C++ over there can be helpful, but we'll go over the Java code specifically. The first line is a package declaration. This won't be of much significance now (besides replacing #### with your team number!) but basically you have your own little package just for you to put your robot code.

Next we import the IterativeRobot class. Then we create a Robot class that extends IterativeRobot. Click IterativeRobot and press F3 (or right-click → Open Declaration) to see it's source code. Ask a helpful teammate if you haven't used object-oriented programming before.

Inside our class we override the robotInit method. Why override? Well, take a look at IterativeRobot. It has a method with exactly the same method signature (access specifier: *public*, return type: *void*, name: *robotInit*, parameters: *[none]*). All this method does though is print a message. While we're not doing much more right now, we still want to run our own code instead, so we're overriding it.

Deploying

- Right click your *project* folder (Getting Started or similar, a blue folder) in the Project Explorer (left side panel). If you don't see it then go to Window → Show View → Project Explorer.
- Mouse-over the Run As submenu about twothirds down. Eclipse may freeze as moment here. Click "WPILib C++/Java Deploy" and again, Eclipse may freeze for several seconds.
- If your computer can communicate with the roboRIO and you've set your team number, it should connect and deploy your new code!

Driver Station

- You should be able to find the Driver Station in C:\Program Files (x86)\FRC Driver Station\DriverStation.exe, but you took care of that when you followed the *Installing the FRC* 2016 Update Suite (All Languages), right?
- On the left panel there is a small gear in the upper-right corner. Click this and select View Console. You should see "Hello, world!" in green from your robot!

Introduction to IterativeRobot

- The IterativeRobot class is a nice template to help you get started quickly. It has eight important methods you can use. They start with *robot*, *autonomous*, *teleop*, or *disabled* and end with *Init* or *Periodic*.
 - robotInit()
 - robotPeriodic()
 - autonomousInit()
 - autonomousPeriodic()
 - teleopInit()
 - teleopPeriodic()
 - disabledInit()
 - disabledPeriodic()
- Note: method names begin with a capital letter in C++ but lower-case in Java

Introduction to IterativeRobot

Autonomous methods will be called, as you might have guessed, in autonomous. *AutonomousInit* is run once when autonomous begins and *AutonomousPeriodic* is called repeatedly and rapidly as long as autonomous is enabled.

- The same is true for teleop. If you use would like to use test mode then those methods exist as well.
- RobotInit will be run once when your robot start up, and RobotPeriodic will always run repeatedly. DisabledInit runs once when your robot becomes disabled (for any reason), and DisabledPeriodic runs as long as your robot is disabled.

Init vs. Periodic Methods

- To be clear, the ___Periodic methods are called repeatedly and (hopefully) many times a second!
- One-time setup/initialization code goes in ___Init, repeated code goes in ___Periodic

Lighting the CANLights

C++

```
#include "WPILib.h"
#include "mindsensors.h"
using mindsensors::CANLight;
class Robot: public IterativeRobot {
private:
    CANLight *lights;
    void RobotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
    void AutonomousInit() {
        lights->ShowRGB(255, 255, 255);
};
START ROBOT CLASS (Robot)
```

Java

```
package org.usfirst.frc.team####.robot;
import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
import com.mindsensors.CANLight;

public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
    CANLight lights;

    public void robotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
    }

    public void autonomousInit() {
        lights.showRGB(255, 255, 255);
    }
}
```

Lighting the CANLights

- Now for real let's light up the CANLight! We will build on what we learned earlier in Hello World. First we are including/importing an additional file.
- In C++ we #include "mindsensors.h" but you can also include only CANLight.h in this example. CANLight is in the mindsensors namespace, so we use a using statement so we don't have to put mindsensors:: each time we type CANLight. Ask a teammate about the namespace resolution operator!
- In Java you can *include com.mindsensors.*;* or just *com.mindsensors.CANLight* for this example.

Lighting the CANLights

- The next new addition is a *lights* attribute to our *Robot* class. It's type is a *CANLight* object, but *lights* doesn't have a value yet.
- Now in *RobotInit* we construct a new CANLight object for *lights*. Ask a friendly teammate programmer about object-oriented programming if this is new to you.
- We add an AutonomousInit method and use it to call the ShowRGB method of our lights object.
- Bonus: what will this program do?

Lighting the CANLights

- This program will make the CANLight illuminate a white color on the RGB LED strip when autonomous starts. Good job!
 - Try setting a different color than white. Maybe even set another color when teleoperated mode starts!
- You may notice the lights will stay on even when autonomous ends. The CANLight will continue with the last command you gave it until you tell it otherwise. How might you turn the lights off when autonomous ends? Answer on the next slide.

Putting Out the CANLights

C++

```
#include "mindsensors.h"
using mindsensors::CANLight;
class Robot: public IterativeRobot {
private:
    CANLight *lights;
    void RobotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
    void AutonomousInit() {
        lights->ShowRGB(255, 255, 255);
    void DisabledInit() {
        lights->ShowRGB(0, 0, 0);
};
START ROBOT CLASS (Robot)
```

#include "WPILib.h"

Java

```
package org.usfirst.frc.team####.robot;
import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
import com.mindsensors.CANLight;
public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
    CANLight lights;
    public void robotInit() {
       lights = new CANLight(3);
   public void autonomousInit() {
       lights.showRGB(255, 255, 255);
   public void disabledInit() {
       lights.showRGB(0, 0, 0);
```

Built-In Memory

- The CANLight has a set of 8 registers
- register: one of a small set of data
- Each register has a red, green, and blue value, along with a duration
- The color components may each have a value between 0 and 255
- Duration is a number of seconds between 0.0 and 2.55 seconds
 - ex: 0.5 is half a second

Registers

This is a visual representation of the register system

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
time	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
red	0	255	0	0	255	0	255	255
green	0	0	255	0	255	255	0	255
blue	0	0	0	255	0	255	255	255

Using the Registers

- So what are the registers for?
- They allow you to create more involved light sequences without any advanced programming!
- Each register will have a default value when the CANLight turns on (receives power)
- Want to find out what these default values are?

ShowRegister

 ShowRegister accepts an index, 0 to 7, of which register to show

```
C++
```

#include "WPILib.h" #include "mindsensors.h" using mindsensors::CANLight; class Robot: public IterativeRobot { private: CANLight *lights; void RobotInit() { lights = new CANLight(3); lights->ShowRegister(1); } }; START_ROBOT_CLASS(Robot)

Java

```
package org.usfirst.frc.team####.robot;
import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
import com.mindsensors.CANLight;

public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
    CANLight lights;

    public void robotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
        lights.showRegister(1);
    }
}
```

WriteRegister

Want to change what's in a register?
 WriteRegister takes the index to write to, the duration, and red, green, and blue intensities

C++

START ROBOT CLASS (Robot)

Java

```
#include "WPILib.h"
                                                        package org.usfirst.frc.team####.robot;
#include "mindsensors.h"
                                                        import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
using mindsensors::CANLight;
                                                        import com.mindsensors.CANLight;
class Robot: public IterativeRobot {
                                                        public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
private:
                                                            CANLight lights;
    CANLight *lights;
                                                            public void robotInit() {
    void RobotInit() {
                                                                lights = new CANLight(3);
        lights = new CANLight(3);
                                                                lights.writeRegister(1, 0.5, 255, 0, 127);
        lights->WriteRegister(1, 0.5, 255, 0, 127);
} ;
```

Aside: Tooltips and Autocomplete

- What if you forgot what parameters
 WriteRegister accepts, or what order to put
 them?
- You could check the documentation, we'll go over this later
- What if you don't want to leave Eclipse?

Ctrl+space

```
- -
1 package org.usfirst.frc.team1086.robot;
  3@import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
     import com.mindsensors.CANLight;
    public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
  8
          CANLight lights;
  9
≜10⊖
          public void robotInit() {
 11
               lights = new CANLight(3);
 12
               lights.
 13
                         blinkLED(int seconds): void - CANLight
14
                          cycle(int arg0, int arg1): void - CANLight
 15 }
                          equals(Object obj): boolean - Object
                          fade(int arg0, int arg1): void - CANLight
                          flash(int index) : void - CANLight
                          free(): void - CANLight
                          getBatteryVoltage() : double - CANLight

    getBootloaderVersion(): String - CANLight

                          getClass(): Class<?> - Object
                          getDeviceID(): int - CANLight

    getDeviceName(): String - CANLight

                          getFirmwareVersion(): String - CANLight
                                        Press 'Ctrl+Space' to show Template Proposals
```

```
    *Robot.cpp 

    □

     #include "WPILib.h"
     #include "mindsensors.h"
     using mindsensors::CANLight;
  60 class Robot: public IterativeRobot {
     private:
          CANLight *lights;
 10
          void RobotInit() {
                lights = new CANLight(3);
                lights->
                             _qlobalError : Error
 15

    _globalErrorMutex : priority_mutex

 16 };
                             m error: Error
 17
                             m handle: int
     START ROBOT CLASS
                             BlinkLED(uint8 t seconds): void

    CANLight(uint8_t deviceNumber)

                             ClearError(void): void

    CloneError(const ErrorBase & rhs): void

    Cycle(uint8 t fromIndex, uint8 t toIndex): void

                             ErrorBase(void)

    Fade(uint8_t startIndex, uint8_t endIndex) : void

                             Flash(uint8 t index): void
                                            Press 'Ctrl+Space' to show Template Proposals
```

Start typing to narrow search

```
1 package org.usfirst.frc.team1086.robot;
  3@import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
    import com.mindsensors.CANLight;
    public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
  8
         CANLight lights;
  9
≜10⊖
         public void robotInit() {
             lights = new CANLight(3);
 12
             lights.wr
 13

    writeRegister(int index, double time, int red, int green, int blu

15 }
                                    Press 'Ctrl+Space' to show Template Proposals
```

```
Robot.cpp ⋈
    #include "WPILib.h"
    #include "mindsensors.h"
    using mindsensors::CANLight;
  60 class Robot: public IterativeRobot {
    private:
         CANLight *lights;
10
         void RobotInit() {
              lights = new CANLight(3);
              lights->Wr

    WriteRegister(uint8 t index,double time,uint8 t red,uint8 t gr

15
16 };
17
    START ROBOT CLASS
                                       Press 'Ctrl+Space' to show Template Proposals
```

Enter

```
1 package org.usfirst.frc.team1086.robot;
  3@ import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
  4 import com.mindsensors.CANLight;
  6 public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
  7
  8
        CANLight lights;
  9
≙10⊖
        public void robotInit() {
 11
            lights = new CANLight int index, double time, int red, int green, int blue
12
            lights.writeRegister(index, time, red, green, blue);
 13
        }
14

    ROBOT_TASK_PRIORITY

15 }
                                    0
```

```
1 #include "WPILib.h"
    #include "mindsensors.h"
    using mindsensors::CANLight;
  60 class Robot: public IterativeRobot {
  8 private:
        CANLight *lights;
10
119
        void RobotInit() {
            lights = new CANLight (uint8_t index, double time, uint8_t red, uint8_t green, uint8_t blue
13
            lights->WriteRegister()
15
16 };
17
18 START_ROBOT_CLASS(Robot)
```

Type a value, tab (Java)

```
1 package org.usfirst.frc.team1086.robot;
  3@import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
  4 import com.mindsensors.CANLight;
  6 public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
 8
        CANLight lights;
 9
≜10⊖
        public void robotInit()
            lights = new CANLight int index, double time, int red, int green, int blue
            lights.writeRegister(1, 0.25, red, green, blue);
13
14

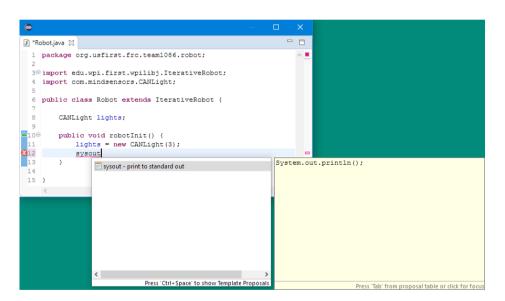
    ROBOT_TASK_PRIORITY

15 }
                                              0
```

Done! (enter to complete)

```
☑ Robot.java 
☒
 1 package org.usfirst.frc.team1086.robot;
 3@import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
 4 import com.mindsensors.CANLight;
 6 public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
 8
        CANLight lights;
 9
≜10⊖
        public void robotInit() {
            lights = new CANLight(3);
            lights.writeRegister(1, 0.25, 0, 255, 50);
 13
14
15 }
```

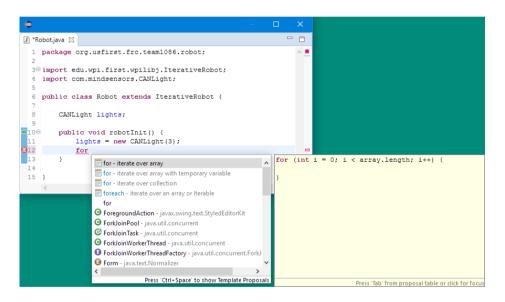
More: sysout



```
Package org.usfirst.frc.team1086.robot;

1  package org.usfirst.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
2  import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
4  import com.mindsensors.CANLight;
5  public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
7     CANLight lights;
9     public void robotInit() {
11          lights = new CANLight(3);
12          System.out.println();
13     }
14
15 }
```

More: for



Recap

- So far you know how to
 - set a red, green, blue value
 - store colors to registers
 - load colors from registers
- But wait, what about the cool features using registers?

Flash

- Turns the CANLight on with the color in a register
- leaves it on for the duration in that register
- turns it off for that duration
- Repeat!

C++

```
#include "WPILib.h"

#include "mindsensors.h"
using mindsensors::CANLight;

class Robot: public IterativeRobot {

private:
    CANLight *lights;

    void RobotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
        lights->Flash(1);
    }

};

START_ROBOT_CLASS(Robot)
```

Java

```
package org.usfirst.frc.team####.robot;
import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
import com.mindsensors.CANLight;

public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {

CANLight lights;

  public void robotInit() {
    lights = new CANLight(3);
    lights.flash(1);
  }

}
```

Flash

- You don't need to write any timing code in your robot program
- Just call flash and it will keep flashing until you give it another command!
- Try out some different colors and durations

Registers Default Values

- Let's say you want to find out what the default register values are
- You could also check the documentation or the second slide on registers but...

C++

Java

```
#include "WPILib.h"
#include "mindsensors.h"
using mindsensors::CANLight;
class Robot: public IterativeRobot {
private:
    CANLight *lights;
    void RobotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
        for (uint8 t i = 0; i < 8; i++) {</pre>
            lights->ShowRegister(i);
            Wait(1.0);
};
START ROBOT CLASS (Robot)
```

```
package org.usfirst.frc.team1086.robot;
import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
import edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.Timer;
import com.mindsensors.CANLight;

public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
    CANLight lights;

    public void robotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
        for (int i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
            lights.showRegister(i);
            Timer.delay(1);
        }
    }
}</pre>
```

Wait...

- This program will cycle through each of the 8 registers (indexed 0 to 7) and wait a second after each
- Doesn't this seem like too much code for such a simple task?

Cycle

```
C++
```

```
#include "WPILib.h"

#include "mindsensors.h"
using mindsensors::CANLight;

class Robot: public IterativeRobot {

private:
    CANLight *lights;

    void RobotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
        lights->Cycle(0, 7);
    }

};

START_ROBOT_CLASS(Robot)
```

Java

```
package org.usfirst.frc.team####.robot;
import
edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
import com.mindsensors.CANLight;

public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
    CANLight lights;

    public void robotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
        lights.cycle(0, 7);
    }
}
```

How about that!

Cycle

- Again, no need for any timing code of your own!
- Cycle takes 2 parameters
 - index to cycle from
 - index to cycle to
- It will continue to cycle through these until it is given another command
- Each color will be shown for the duration in that register
- Ex: lights.cycle(1, 3);- 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2...

Fade

C++

```
#include "WPILib.h"

#include "mindsensors.h"
using mindsensors::CANLight;

class Robot: public IterativeRobot {

private:
    CANLight *lights;

    void RobotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
        lights->Fade(1, 3);
    }

};

START_ROBOT_CLASS(Robot)
```

Java

```
package org.usfirst.frc.team####.robot;
import
edu.wpi.first.wpilibj.IterativeRobot;
import com.mindsensors.CANLight;

public class Robot extends IterativeRobot {
    CANLight lights;

    public void robotInit() {
        lights = new CANLight(3);
        lights.fade(1, 3);
    }
}
```

Fade

- Smooth transition between colors
- The duration in each register is how long it will take to fade from that color to the next

Memory Lifespan and Reset

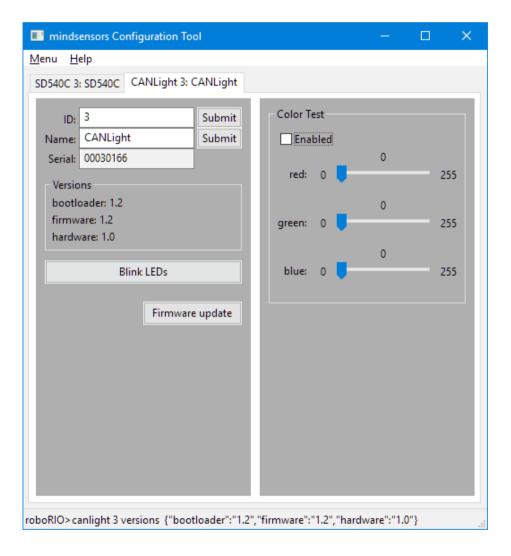
- When a CANLight loses power, its registers return to their default values
- Your robot might briefly lose power in a match
- A good place to call WriteRegister is in RobotInit, or AutonomousInit and TeleopInit if you have different color patterns for each mode
- You can call (Java) .reset() or (C++) ->Reset() to return all registers to their default values

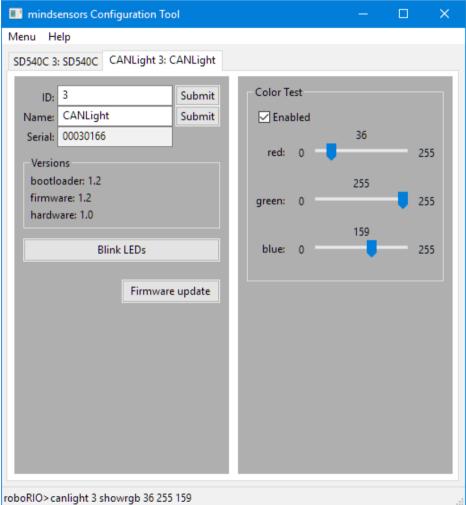
mindsensors Configuration Tool

 You can use this tool to change the ID and test colors

http://www.mindsensors.com/blog/how-to/using-the-mindsensors-configuration-tool

Color Test

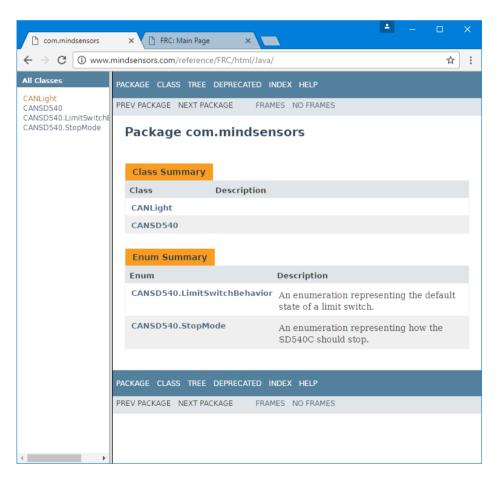


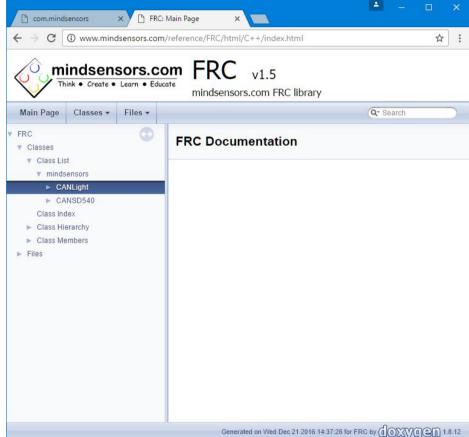


How to Use the Documentation

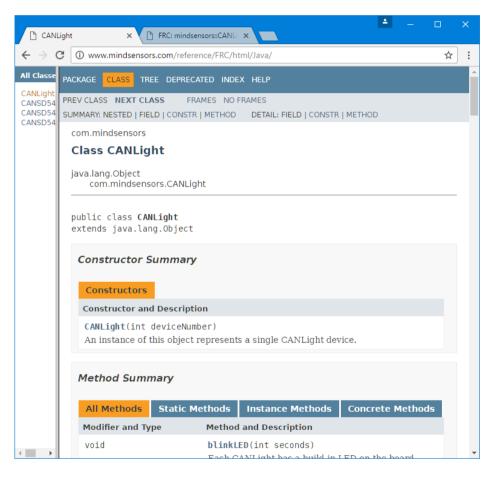
- Documentation is an extremely useful tool (as you may know!)
- Let's say you wanted to know about WriteRegister. What does it do? What arguments does it take? Does it return anything?

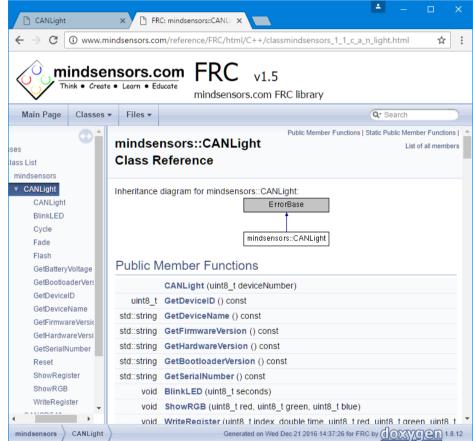
Documentation: Home Page



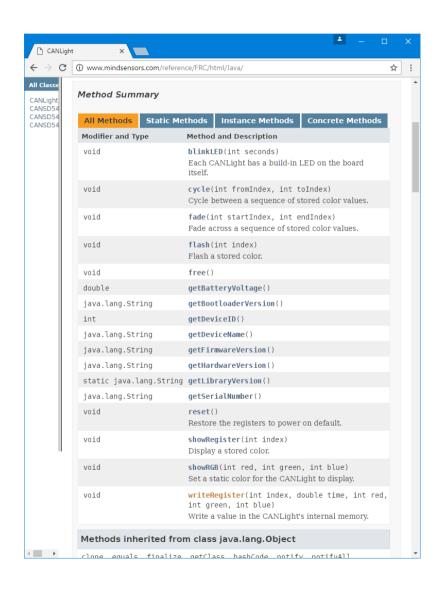


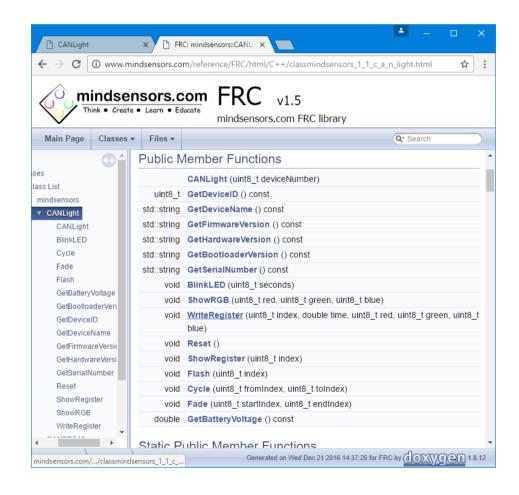
Documentation: Class Page



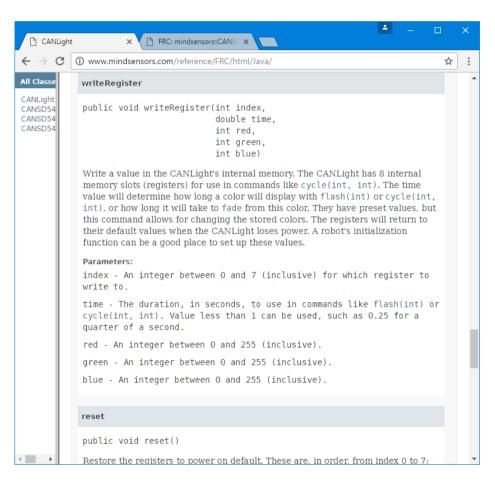


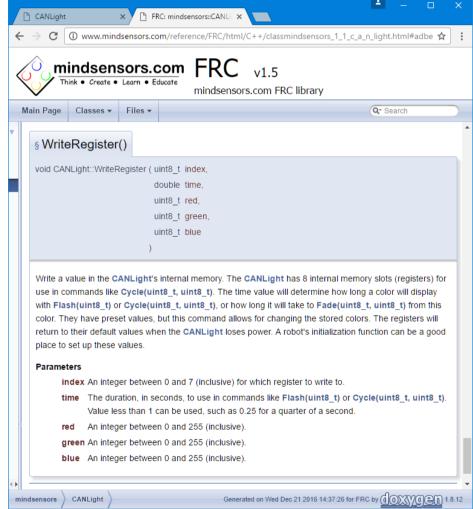
Documentation: Method List





Documentation: Method Detail





Precautions

- The CANLight will draw a lot of attention to your robot
 - People like bright, colorful lights
- Please be tasteful with the speeds, intensity, and contrasting colors you use
 - Your robot represents your team
 - 255 is very bright! It can have a lot more impact if you use lower values normally, and momentarily use very bright colors when something special happens (score a goal, sudden impact, etc.)

Resources

- mindsensors.com FRC library blog post: http://www.mindsensors.com/blog/how-to/how-to-use-sd540c-and-canlight-with-roborio
- mindsensors.com FRC library: http://www.mindsensors.com/largefiles/FIRST/mindsensors.zip
- mindsensors Configuration Tool blog post: http://www.mindsensors.com/blog/how-to/using-the-mindsensors-configuration-tool
- mindsensors Configuration Tool: http://www.mindsensors.com/largefiles/FIRST/mindsensorsConfigurationTool.zip
- mindsensors.com FRC library documentation in Java: http://www.mindsensors.com/reference/FRC/html/Java/
- mindsensors.com FRC library documentation in C++: http://www.mindsensors.com/reference/FRC/html/C++/
- WPI tutorials: https://wpilib.screenstepslive.com/s/4485