

TRACER User Manual



TRACER

AgileX Robotics Team

User Manual V.2.0.2 2023.09

Document version

No.	Version	Date	Edited by	Reviewer	Notes
1	V.2.0.0	2023/03/12	吴忠义		Document creation, image update
2	V.2.0.1	2023/04/19	吴忠义		Sync GitHub commands

3	V.2.0.2	2023/09/02	谢瑞亲	Removed RS232 support Add size chart Format adjustment
4	V.2.0.3	2023/09/08	吴忠义	Update remote control picture Synchronized robot parameter list

This chapter contains important safety information, before the robot is powered on for the first time, any individual or organization must read and understand this information before using the device. If you have any questions about use, please contact us at support@agilex.ai. Please follow and implement all assembly instructions and guidelines in the chapters of this manual, which is very important. Particular attention should be paid to the text related to the warning signs.

Safety Information

The information in this manual does not include the design, installation and operation of a complete robot application, nor does it include all peripheral equipment that may affect the safety of the complete system. The design and use of the complete system need to comply with the safety requirements established in the standards and regulations of the country where the robot is installed. TRACER integrators and end customers have the responsibility to ensure compliance with the applicable laws and regulations of relevant countries, and to ensure that there are no major dangers in the complete robot application.

This includes but is not limited to the following:

Effectiveness and responsibility

- Make a risk assessment of the complete robot system.

- Connect the additional safety equipment of other machinery defined by the risk assessment together.
- Confirm that the design and installation of the entire robot system's peripheral equipment, including software and hardware systems, are correct.
- This robot does not have a complete autonomous mobile robot, including but not limited to automatic anti-collision, anti-falling, biological approach warning and other related safety functions. Related functions require integrators and end customers to follow relevant regulations and feasible laws and regulations for safety assessment. To ensure that the developed robot does not have any major hazards and safety hazards in actual applications.
- Collect all the documents in the technical file: including risk assessment and this manual.

Environmental Considerations

- For the first use, please read this manual carefully to understand the basic operating content and operating specification.
- For remote control operation, select a relatively open area to use TRACER, because TRACER is not equipped with any automatic obstacle avoidance sensor.
- Use TRACER always under -10°C~45°C ambient temperature.
- If TRACER is not configured with separate custom IP protection, its water and dust protection will be IP22 ONLY.

Pre-work Checklist

- Make sure each device has sufficient power.
- Make sure Bunker does not have any obvious defects.
- Check if the remote controller battery has sufficient power.
- When using, make sure the emergency stop switch has been released.

Operation

- In remote control operation, make sure the area around is relatively spacious.
- Carry out remote control within the range of visibility.
- The maximum load of TRACER is 100KG. When in use, ensure that the payload does not exceed 100KG.

- When installing an external extension on TRACER, confirm the position of the center of mass of the extension and make sure it is at the center of rotation.
- Please charge in time when the device voltage is lower than 22.5V.
- When TRACER has a defect, please immediately stop using it to avoid secondary damage.
- When TRACER has had a defect, please contact the relevant technical to deal with it, do not handle the
- defect by yourself.
- Always use TRACER in the environment with the protection level requires for the equipment.
- Do not push TRACER directly.
- When charging, make sure the ambient temperature is above 0°C.

Maintenance

- In order to ensure the storage capacity of the battery, the battery should be stored under electricity, and it should be charged regularly when not used for a long time.

Attention

This section includes some precautions that should be paid attention to for TRACER use and development.

Battery

- The battery supplied with TRACER is not fully charged in the factory setting, but its specific power capacity can be displayed on the voltmeter at rear end of TRACER chassis or read via CAN bus communication interface. The battery recharging can be stopped when the green LED on the charger turns green. Note that if you keep the charger connected after the green LED gets on, the charger will continue to charge the battery with about 0.1A current for about 30 minutes more to get the battery fully charged.
- Please do not charge the battery after its power has been depleted, and please charge the battery in time when low battery level alarm is on; Static storage conditions: The best temperature for battery storage is -20°C to 60°C; in case of storage for no use, the battery must be recharged and discharged once about every 2 months, and then stored in full voltage state. Please do not put the battery in fire or heat up the battery, and please do not store the battery in high-temperature environment;

- Charging: The battery must be charged with a dedicated lithium battery charger; lithium-ion batteries cannot be charged below 0°C (32°F) and modifying or replacing the original batteries are strictly prohibited.

Operational environment

- The operating temperature of TRACER outdoors is -10°C to 45°C; please do not use it below -10°C and above 45°C outdoors;
- The requirements for relative humidity in the use environment of TRACER are: maximum 80%, minimum 30%;
- Please do not use it in the environment with corrosive and flammable gases or closed to combustible substances;
- Do not place it near heaters or heating elements such as large coiled resistors, etc.;
- Except for specially customized version (IP protection class customized), TRACER is not water-proof, thus please do not use it in rainy, snowy or water-accumulated environment;
- The elevation of recommended use environment should not exceed 1,000m;
- The temperature difference between day and night of recommended use environment should not exceed 25°C;

Electrical/extension cords

- The tail extension power supply current does not exceed 5A, and the total power does not exceed 120W;
- When the system detects that the battery voltage is lower than the safe voltage, the external power expansion device will be actively cut off. Therefore, if the external expansion device involves the storage of important data and does not have power-down protection, it is recommended that the user pay attention.

Additional safety advice

- In case of any doubts during use, please follow related instruction manual or consult related technical personnel;
- Before use, pay attention to field condition, and avoid mis-operation that will cause personnel safety problem;
- In case of emergencies, press down the emergency stop button and power off the equipment;
- Without technical support and permission, please do not personally modify the internal equipment structure.

Other notes

- When handling and setting up, please do not fall off or place the vehicle upside down;
- For non-professionals, please do not disassemble the vehicle without permission.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

Document version

Safety Information

Attention

CONTENTS

1 TRACER Introduction

- 1.1 Component list
- 1.2 Tech specifications
- 1.3 Development requirements

2 The Basics

- 2.1 Status indication
- 2.2 Instructions on electrical interfaces
 - 2.2.1 Rear electrical interface
- 2.3 Instructions on remote control
- 2.4 Instructions on control demands and movements

3 Getting Started

- 3.2 Charging
- 3.3 Communication using CAN
 - 3.3.1 CAN message protocol
 - 3.3.2 CAN cable connection
 - 3.3.3 Implementation of CAN command control
- 3.4 Firmware upgrades
- 3.5 SCOUT2.0 ROS Package usage example

4 Q&A

5 Product Dimensions

5.1 Illustration diagram of product external dimensions

1 TRACER Introduction

TRACER is designed as a multi-purpose UGV with different application scenarios considered: modular design; flexible connectivity; powerful motor system capable of high payload. The combination of two-wheel differential chassis and hub motor can make it move flexible indoor. Additional components such as stereo camera, laser radar, GPS, IMU and robotic manipulator can be optionally installed on TRACER for advanced navigation and computer vision applications. TRACER is frequently used for autonomous driving education and research, indoor and outdoor security patrolling and transportation, to name a few only.

1.1 Component list

Name	Quantity
TRACER Robot body	x1
Battery charger(AC 220V)	x1
Remote control transmitter(optional)	x1
Aviation plug (male,4-Pin)	x1
USB to CAN communication module	x1

1.2 Tech specifications

Parameter Types	Items	Values
Mechanical specifications	L × W × H (mm)	685 X 570X 155
	Wheelbase (mm)	360

	Front/rear wheel base (mm)	-
	Curb weight (kg)	28~30
	Battery Type	Lithium battery
	Battery parameters	24V 15Ah
	Power drive motor	DC brushless 2 X 150W
	Steering drive motor	-
	Parking mode	Servo brake/safety contact strip
	Steering	Differential steering
	Suspension form	Swing arm non-independent suspension
	Steering motor reduction ratio	-
	Steering motor encoder	-
	Drive motor reduction ratio	-
	Drive motor sensor	Optoelectronics 1024
Performance parameters	IP Grade	IP22
	Maximum speed (km/h)	1.8
	Minimum turning radius (mm)	Can turn in place
	Maximum gradeability (°)	8°
	Ground clearance (mm)	30
	Maximum battery life (h)	8
	Maximum distance (km)	40km

	Charging time (h)	2
	Working temperature (°C)	-10~40°C
Control	Control mode	Remote control Control Command control mode
	RC transmitter	2.4G/extreme distance 200M
	System interface	CAN

1.3 Development requirements

RC transmitter is provided (optional) in the factory setting of TRACER, which allows users to control the chassis of robot to move and turn; CAN interfaces on TRACER can be used for user's customization.

2 The Basics

This section provides a brief introduction to the TRACER mobile robot platform, as shown in Figure 2.1 and Figure2.2.

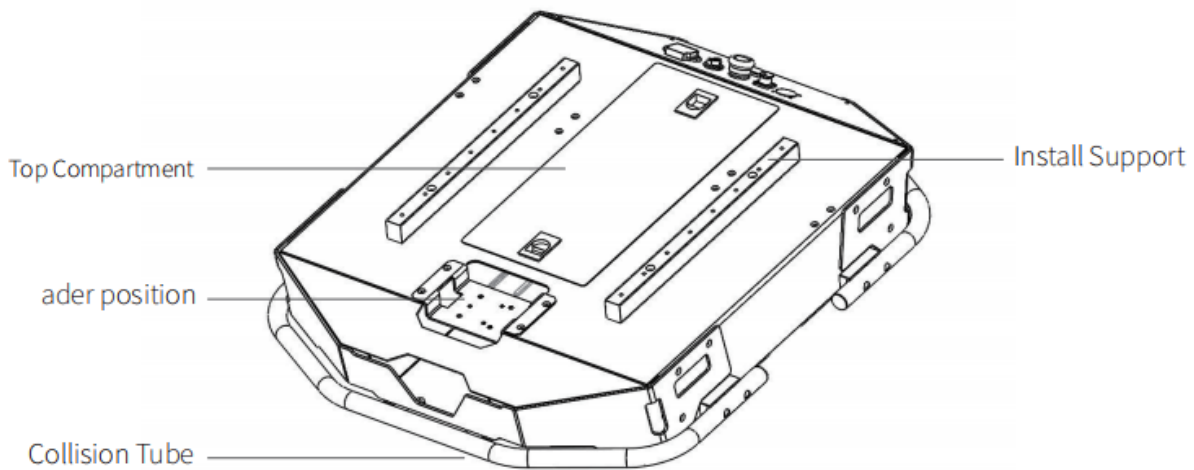


Figure 2.1 Front View

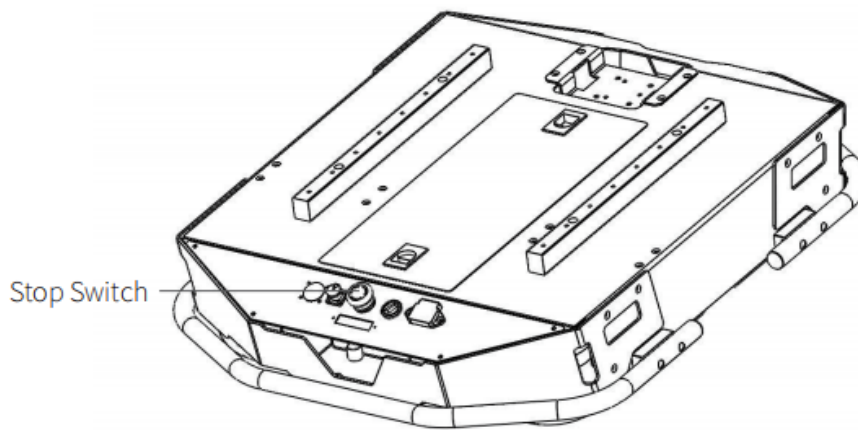


Figure 2.2 Rear View

TRACER is Designed as a complete intelligent module, which along with powerful DC hub motor, enables the chassis of TRACER robot to flexibly move on flat ground of indoor. Anti-collision beams are mounted around the vehicle to reduce possible damages to the vehicle body during a collision.

Lights is mounted at front of the vehicle, of which the white light is designed for illumination in front.

An emergency stop switch is mounted at the rear end of vehicle body, which can shut down power of the robot immediately when the robot behaves abnormally.

Water-proof connectors for DC power and communication interface is provided at the rear of TRACER, which not only allow flexible connection between the robot and external components but also ensures necessary protection to the internal of the robot even under severe operating conditions.

A bayonet open compartment is reserved on the top for users.

2.1 Status indication

Users can identify the status of vehicle body through the voltmeter and lights mounted on TRACER. For details, please refer to Table 2.1

Status	Description
Voltage	The current battery voltage can be read from the voltmeter on the rear electrical interface and with an accuracy of 1V.
Replace battery	When the battery voltage is lower than 22V, the vehicle body will give abEEP-beep-beep sound as a warning. When the battery voltage is detected as lower than 21.5V, TRACER will actively cut off the power supply to external extensions and drive to prevent the battery from being damaged. In this case, the chassis will not enable movement control and accept external command control.
Robot powered on	Front light is switched on.

Table 2.1 Descriptions of Vehicle Status

2.2 Instructions on electrical interfaces

2.2.1 Rear electrical interface

The extension interface at rear end is shown in Figure 2.3, where Q1 is D89 serial port; Q2 is the stop switch; Q3 is the power charging port; Q4 is the extension interface for CAN and 24V power supply; Q5 is the electricity meter; Q6 is the rotary switch as the main electrical switch.

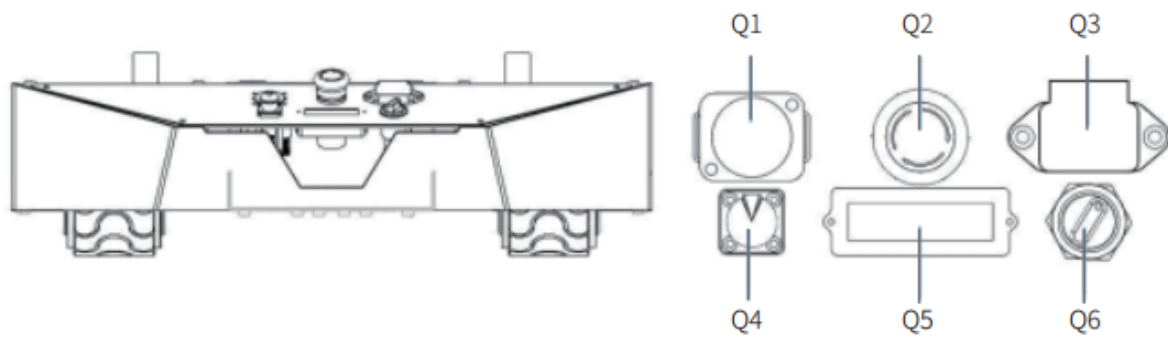
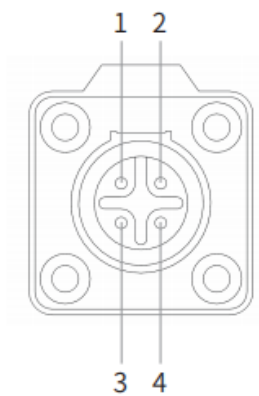


Figure 2.3 Illustration Diagram of Q1 Pins

The rear panel provides CAN communication interface and 24V power interface. The pin definitions are given in Figure 2.5.



Pin No.	Pin Type	Function and Definition	Remarks
1	Power	VCC	Power positive, voltage range 23 - 29.2V, maximum current 5A
2	Power	GND	Power negative
3	CAN	CAN_H	CAN bus high
4	CAN	CAN_L	CAN bus low

Figure 2.5 Description of Rear Aviation Interface Pins

2.3 Instructions on remote control

FS remote control is an optional accessory for TRACER products. Customers can choose according to actual needs. Using the remote control can easily control the TRACER universal robot chassis. In this product, we use the design of the left-hand accelerator. Its definition and function can refer to Figure 2.6.



Figure 2.6 Schematic Diagram of Buttons on FS RC transmitter

The functions of the buttons are defined as follows: SWA and SWD are temporarily not enabled. SWB is the control mode selection button. Push it to the top for the command control mode, and push it to the middle for the remote control mode. SWC is the light control button. S1 is the throttle button. Control TRACER to move forward and backward; S2 controls rotation, and POWER is the power button. Press and hold at the same time to turn on and off the machine.

Remote control interface description:

Tracer : model

Vol: battery voltage

Car: chassis status

Batt: Chassis power percentage

P: Park

Remoter: remote control battery level

Fault Code: Error information (Refer to the fault information description table)

2.4 Instructions on control demands and movements

A reference coordinate system can be defined and fixed on the vehicle body as shown in Figure 2.7 in accordance with ISO 8855.

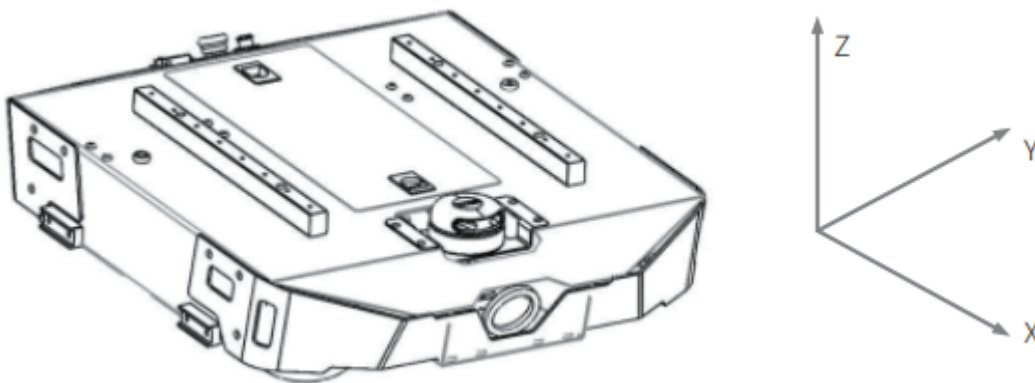


Figure 2.7 Schematic Diagram of Reference Coordinate System for Vehicle Body

As shown in Figure 2.7, the vehicle body of TRACER is in parallel with X axis of the established reference coordinate system. Following this convention, a positive linear velocity corresponds to the forward movement of the vehicle along positive x-axis direction and a positive angular velocity corresponds to positive right-hand rotation about the z-axis. In the manual control mode with a RC transmitter, pushing the C1 stick (DJI model) or the S1 stick (FS model) forward will generate a positive linear velocity command and pushing C2 (DJI model) and S2 (FS model) to the left will generate a positive angular velocity command.

3 Getting Started

This section introduces the basic operation and development of the TRACER platform using the CAN bus interface.

Check

- Check the condition of vehicle body. Check whether there are significant anomalies; if so, please contact the after-sale service personnel for support;

Check the state of emergency stop switches. Make sure both emergency stop buttons are released.

Shut down

- Rotate the key switch to cut off the power supply;

Start up

- Emergency stop switch status. Confirm that the emergency stop buttons are all released;
- Rotate the key switch (Q6 on the electrical panel), and normally, the voltmeter will display correct battery voltage and front and rear lights will be both switched on.

Emergency stop

- Press down emergency push button both on the left and the right
- of rear vehicle body;

Shut down

- Rotate the key switch to cut off the power supply;

Start up

- Emergency stop switch status. Confirm that the emergency stop buttons are all released;
- Rotate the key switch (Q6 on the electrical panel), and normally, the voltmeter will display correct battery voltage and front and rear lights will be both switched on.

Emergency stop

- After the chassis of TRACER mobile robot is started correctly, turn on the RC transmitter and select the remote-control mode. Then, TRACER platform movement can be controlled by the RC transmitter.

3.2 Charging

TRACER is equipped with a 10A charger by default to meet customers' recharging demand.

The detailed operating procedure of charging is shown as follows:

- Make sure the electricity of TRACER chassis is powered off. Before charging, please make sure Q6 (key switch) in the rear control console is turned off;

- Insert the charger plug into Q3 charging interface on the rear control panel;
- Connect the charger to power supply and turn on the switch in the charger. Then, the robot enters the charging state.
- When charging normally, there is no indicator light on the chassis. Please see the charger indicator light instructions for specific instructions.

3.3 Communication using CAN

TRACER provides CAN interface for user customization. Users can use it to conduct command control over the vehicle body.

3.3.1 CAN message protocol

TRACER adopts CAN2.0B communication standard which has a communication baud rate of 500K and Motorola message format. Via external CAN bus interface, the moving linear speed and the rotational angular speed of chassis can be controlled; TRACER will feedback on the current movement status information and its chassis status information in real time.

The protocol includes system status feedback frame, movement control feedback frame and control frame, the contents of which are shown as follows:

The system status feedback command includes the feedback information about current status of vehicle body, control mode status, battery voltage and system failure. The description is given in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Feedback Frame of TRACER Chassis System Status

Command Name	System Status Feedback Command			
Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)
Steer-by-wire chassis	Decision-making control unit	0x211	20ms	None
Data length	0x08			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	

byte [0]	Current status of vehicle body	unsigned int8	0x00 System in normal condition 0x01 Emergency stop mode 0x02 System exception
byte [1]	Mode control	unsigned int8	0x00 Standby mode 0x01 CAN command control mode 0x02 Remote control mode
byte [2] byte [3]	Battery voltage higher 8 bits Battery voltage lower 8 bits	unsigned int16	Actual voltage X 10 (with an accuracy of 0.1V)
byte [4]	High 8 digits of fault information	unsigned int16	See notes for details 【 Table 3.2】
byte [5]	Low eight bits of fault information		
byte [6]	Reserved	-	0x00
byte [7]	Count paritybit (count)	unsigned int8	0 - 255 counting loops

Table 3.2 Description of Failure Information

Description of Failure Information		
byte [4]	bit [0]	Battery under-voltage failure (0: No failure 1: Failure) Protective voltage 22V
	bit [1]	Battery under-voltage alarm (0: No alarm 1: Alarm) Alarm voltage 22.5V
	bit [2]	RC transmitter disconnection protection (0: Normal 1: RC transmitter disconnected)
	bit [3]	Motor driver 1 lost connection

	bit [6]	Motor driver 2 lost connection
	bit [7]	Reserved
byte [5]	bit [0]	Motor driver abnormality
	bit [1:7]	Reserved

The command of movement control feedback frame includes the feedback of current linear speed and angular speed of moving vehicle body. For the detailed content of protocol, please refer to Table 3.3.

Table 3.3 Movement Control Feedback Frame

Command Name	Movement Control Feedback Command			
Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)
Steer-by-wire chassis	Decision-making control unit	0x221	20ms	None
Data length	0x08			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	
byte [0] byte [1]	Moving speed higher 8 bits Moving speed lower 8 bits	signed int16	Vehicle speed Unit: mm/s	
byte [2] byte [3]	Rotational speed higher 8 bits Rotational speed lower 8 bits	signed int16	Vehicle angular speed Unit: 0.001rad/s	
byte [4]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [5]	Reserved	-	0x00	

byte [6]	Reserved	-	0x00
byte [7]	Reserved	-	0x00

The control frame includes control openness of linear speed and control openness of angular speed. For its detailed content of protocol, please refer to Table 3.4.

Table 3.4 Control Frame of Movement Control Command

Command Name		Control Command		
Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)
Steer-by-wire chassis	Decision-making control unit	0x111	20ms	500ms
Data length	0x08			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	
byte [0] byte [1]	Moving speed higher 8 bits Moving speed lower 8 bits	signed int16	Vehicle speed Unit: mm/s Effective value \pm 1800	
byte [2] byte [3]	Rotational speed higher 8 bits Rotational speed lower 8 bits	signed int16	Vehicle angular speed Unit: 0.001rad/s Effective value \pm 1000	
byte [4]	Reserved	—	0x00	
byte [5]	Reserved	—	0x00	
byte [6]	Reserved	—	0x00	
byte [7]	Reserved	—	0x00	

The light control frame includes current state of front light. For its detailed content of protocol, please refer to Table 3.5.

Table 3.5 Lighting Control Frame

Command Name		Lighting Control Frame		
Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)
Steer-by-wire chassis	Steer-by-wire chassis	0x121	25ms	500ms
Data length	0x08			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	
byte [0]	Lighting control enable flag	unsigned int8	0x00 Control command invalid 0x01 Lighting control enable	
byte [1]	Front light mode	unsigned int8	0x00 NC 0x01 NO 0x02 BL mode 0x03 User-defined brightness	
byte [2]	Custom brightness of front light	unsigned int8	[0,100], where 0 refers to no brightness, 100 refers to maximum brightness 【5】	
byte [3]	Reserved	--	0x00	
byte [4]	Reserved	--	0x00	
byte [5]	Reserved	--	0x00	
byte [6]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [7]	Count parity bit (count)	unsigned int8	0 - 255 counting loops, which will be added once every command sent	

Note[5]: This date only valid in custom mode

The light control frame includes light control mode and control openness. For its detailed content , please

refer to Table 3.6.

Table 3.6 Lighting Control Frame

Command Name		Lighting Control Frame		
Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)
Steer-by-wire chassis	Decision-making control unit	0x231	20ms	None
Data length	0x08			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	
byte [0]	Lighting control enable flag	unsigned int8	0x00 Control command invalid 0x01 Lighting control enable	
byte [1]	Front light mode	unsigned int8	0x00 NC 0x01 NO 0x02 BL mode 0x03 User-defined brightness	
byte [2]	Custom brightness of front light	unsigned int8	[0, 100], where 0 refers to no brightness, 100 refers to maximum brightness	
byte [3]	Reserved	--	0x00	
byte [4]	Reserved	--	0x00	
byte [5]	Reserved	--	0x00	
byte [6]	Reserved	-	0x00	

byte [7]	Count paritybit (count)	unsigned int8	0 - 255 counting loops, which will be added once every command sent
----------	----------------------------	---------------	---

The control mode frame include set the control mode of chassis. For its detailed content , please refer to Table 3.7.

Table 3.7 Control Mode Frame Instruction

Command Name		Control Mode Setting Frame		
Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)
Steer-by-wire chassis	Decision-making control unit	0x421	None	None
Data length	0x01			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	
byte [0]	Control mode	unsigned int8	0x00 Remote control mode 0x01 CAN command control mode[1]	

Note 1, Control mode instruction

The default is standby mode, and you need to switch to command mode to send motion control commands. If the remote control is turned on, the remote control has the highest authority and can block command control. When the remote control switches to command mode, it still needs to send a control mode setting command before it can respond to the speed command.

The status position frame includes clear error message. For its detailed content , please refer to Table 3.8.

Table 3.8 Status position Frame Instruction

Command Name	Status position Frame
--------------	-----------------------

Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)
Steer-by-wire chassis	Decision-making control unit	0x441	None	None
Data length	0x01			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	
byte [0]	Control mode	unsigned int8	0x00 Clear all errors 0x01 Clear errors of motor 1 0x02 Clear errors of motor 2	

Table 3.9 Odometer Feedback Instruction

Command Name		Odometer Feedback Instruction		
Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)
Steer-by-wire chassis	Decision-making control unit	0x311	None	None
Data length	0x08			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	
byte [0]	Left tyre highest odometer	signed int32	Data of left tyre odometer Unit mm	
byte [1]	Left tyre second highest odometer			
byte [2]	Left tyre second lowest odometer			

byte [3]	Left tyre lowest odometer		
byte [4]	Right tyre highest odometer	signed int32	Data of right tyre odometer Unit mm
byte [5]	Right tyre second highest odometer		
byte [6]	Right tyre second lowest odometer		
byte [7]	Right tyre lowest odometer		

The chassis status information will be feed back; what's more, the information about motor. The following feedback frame contains the information about motor :

The serial numbers of 2 motors in the chassis are shown in the figure below:

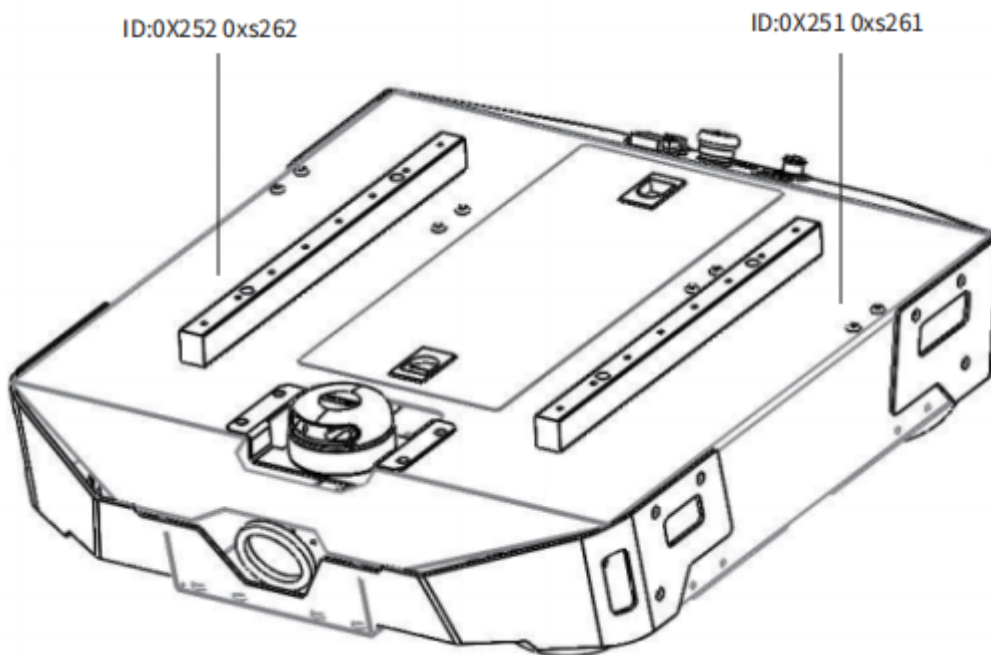


Figure 3.0 Motor Feedback ID schematic diagram

Table 3.10 Motor High-speed Information Feedback Frame

Command Name	Motor High-speed Information Feedback Frame
--------------	---

Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)
Decision-making control unit	Steer-by-wire chassis	0x251~0x252	20ms	None
Data length	0x08			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	
byte [0] byte [1]	Motor rotational speed higher 8 bits Motor rotational speed lower 8 bits	signed int16	Motor rotational speed Unit: RPM	
byte [2]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [3]	Reserved	--	0x00	
byte [4]	Reserved	--	0x00	
byte [5]	Reserved	--	0x00	
byte [6]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [7]	Reserved	-	0	

Table 3.11 Motor Low-speed Information Feedback Frame

Command Name		Motor Low-speed Information Feedback Frame		
Sending node	Receiving node	ID	Cycle (ms)	Receive-timeout (ms)

Decision-making control unit	Steer-by-wire chassis	0x261~0x262	100ms	None
Data length	0x08			
Position	Function	Data type	Description	
byte [0]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [1]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [2]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [3]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [4]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [5]	Driver status	-	Details are shown in Table 3.12	
byte [6]	Reserved	-	0x00	
byte [7]	Reserved	-	0	

Table 3.12 Description of Failure Information

Description of Failure Information		
byte [5]	bit [0]	Reserved
	bit [1]	Reserved
	bit [2]	Reserved
	bit [3]	Reserved
	bit [4]	Whether the CAN communication is disconnected(0: Normal 1: Disconnected)
	bit [6]	Reserved

	bit [7]	Reserved
--	---------	----------

3.3.2 CAN cable connection

FOR WIRE DEFINITIONS, PLEASE REFER TO TABLE 2.2.



Figure 3.2 Schematic Diagram of Aviation Male Plug

Note:The maximum achievable output current is typically around 5 A.

3.3.3 Implementation of CAN command control

Correctly start the chassis of TRACER mobile robot, and turn on FS RC transmitter. Then, switch to the command control mode, i.e. toggling SWB mode of FS RC transmitter to the top. At this point, TRACER chassis will accept the command from CAN interface, and the host can also parse the current state of chassis with the real-time data fed back from CAN bus. For the detailed content of protocol, please refer to CAN communication protocol

3.4 Firmware upgrades

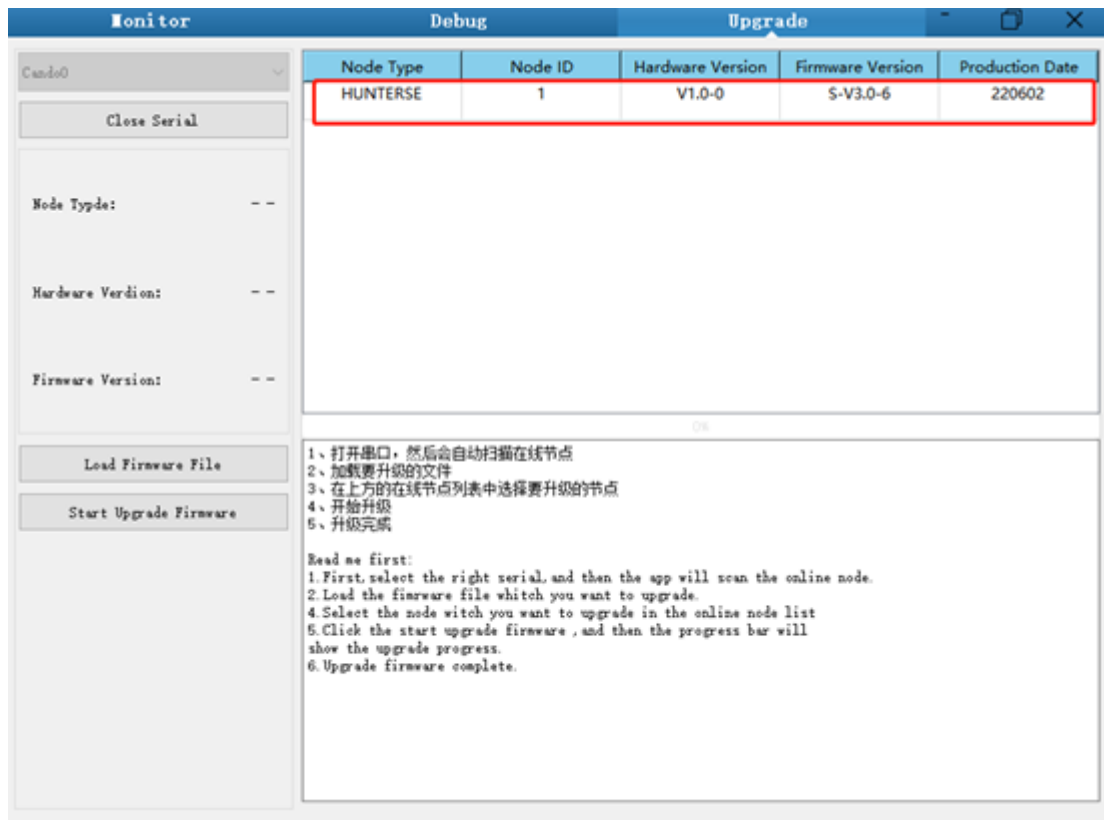
To facilitate users to upgrade the firmware of the chassis and bring customers a better experience, the TRACER chassis provides a hardware interface and a software for upgrading firmware. The GUI (Graphical User Interface) of the software is shown in the figure below.

Upgrade Preparation

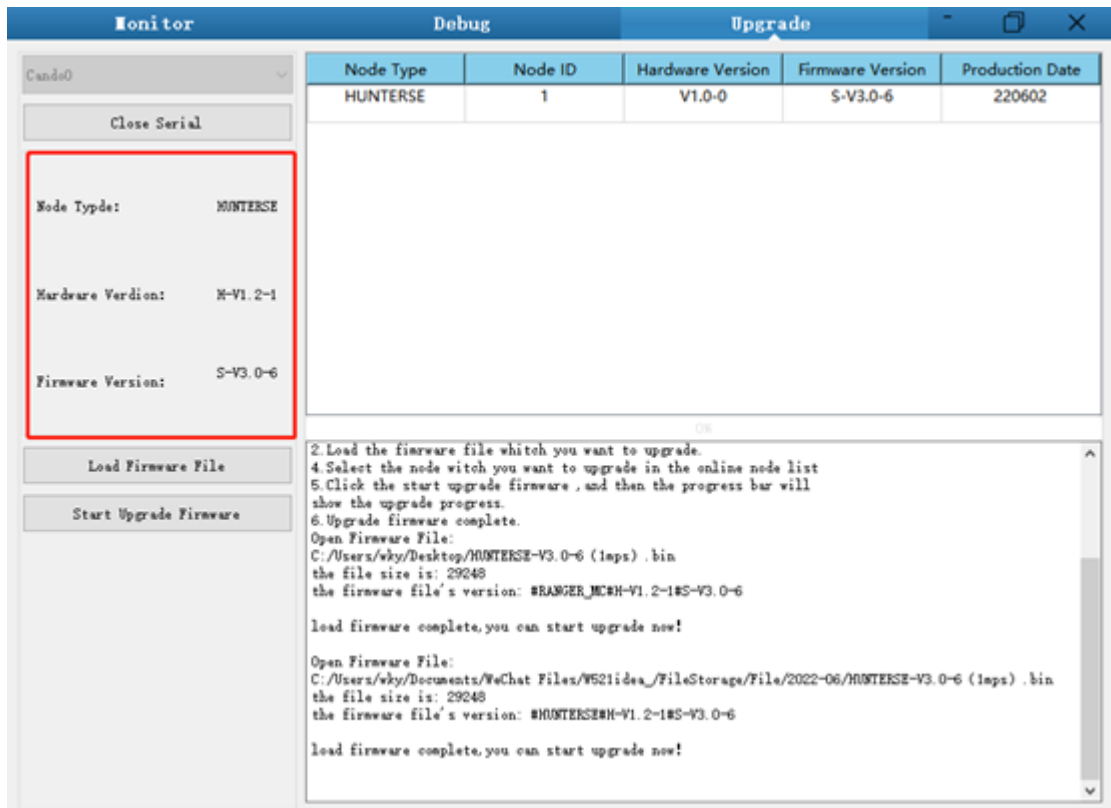
- Agilex CAN debugging module X 1
- Micro USB cable X 1
- TRACER chassis X 1
- A computer (WINDOWS OS (Operating System)) X 1

Upgrade Process

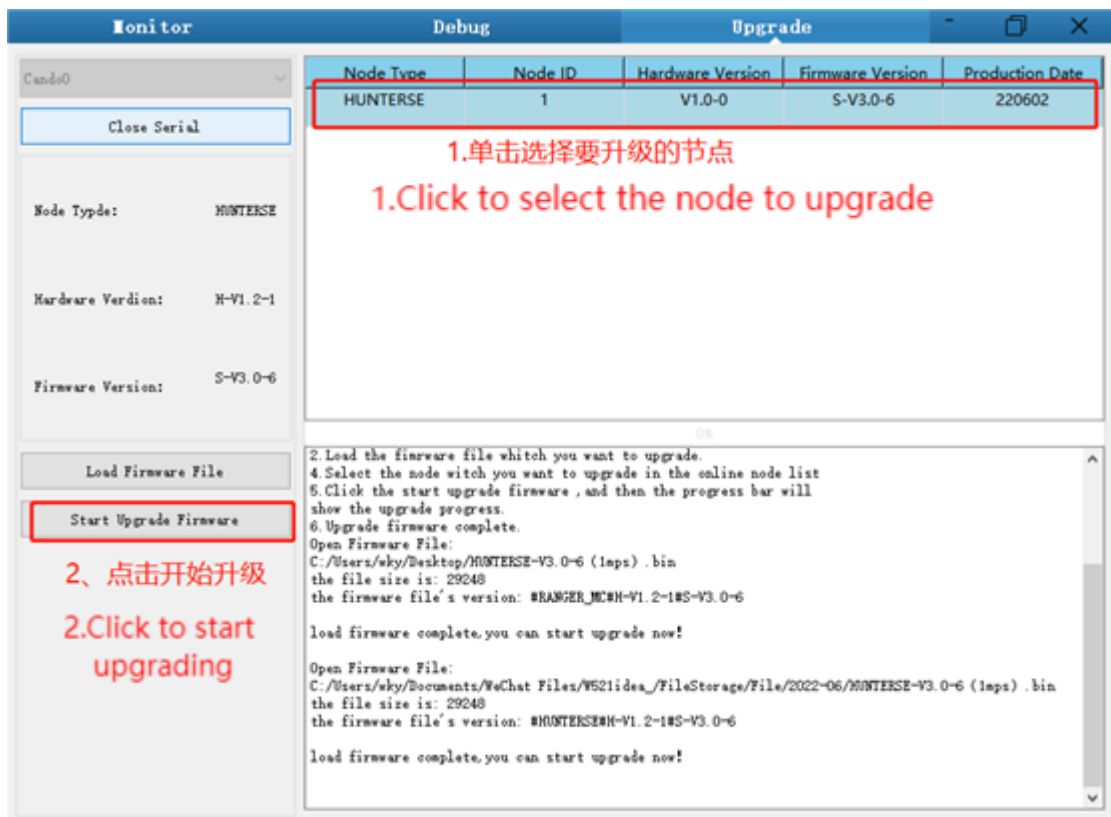
1. Plug in the USBTOCAN module on the computer, and then open the AgxCandoUpgradeToolV1.3_boxed.exe software (the sequence cannot be wrong, first open the software and then plug in the module, the device will not be recognized).
2. Click the Open Serial button, and then press the power button on the car body. If the connection is successful, the version information of the main control will be recognized, as shown in the figure.

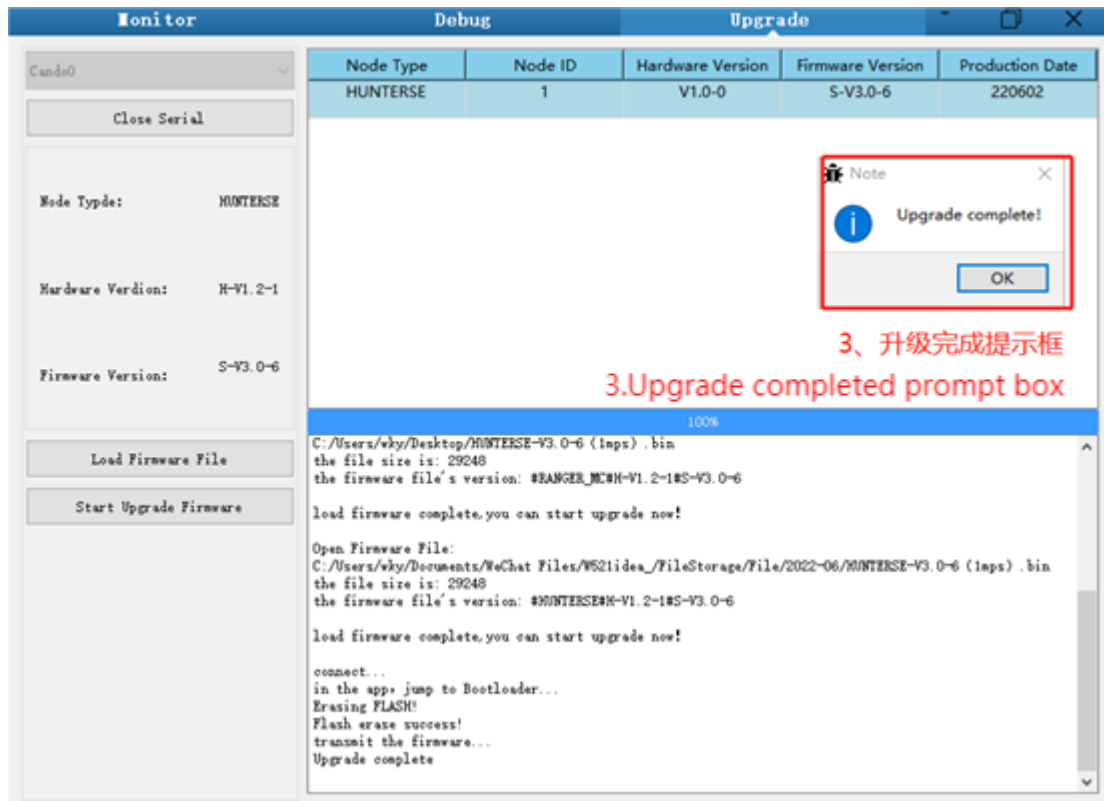


3. Click the Load Firmware File button to load the firmware to be upgraded. If the loading is successful, the firmware information will be obtained, as shown in the figure



4. Click the node to be upgraded in the node list box, and then click Start Upgrade Firmware to start upgrading the firmware. After the upgrade is successful, a pop-up box will prompt.





3.5 SCOUT2.0 ROS Package usage example

ROS provide some standard operating system services, such as hardware abstraction, low-level device control, implementation of common function, interprocess message and data packet management. ROS is based on a graph architecture, so that process of different nodes can receive, and aggregate various information (such as sensing, control, status, planning, etc.) Currently ROS mainly support UBUNTU.

Development Preparation

Hardware preparation

- CANlight can communication module ×1
- Thinkpad E470 notebook ×1
- AGILEX TRACER mobile robot chassis ×1
- AGILEX TRACER remote control FS-i6s ×1
- AGILEX TRACER top aviation power socket ×1

Use example environment description

- Ubuntu 18.04 LTS
- ROS
- Git

Hardware connection and preparation

- Lead out the CAN wire of the TRACER top aviation plug or the tail plug, and connect CAN_H and CAN_L in the CAN wire to the CAN_TO_USB adapter respectively;
- Turn on the knob switch on the TRACER mobile robot chassis, and check whether the emergency stop switches on both sides are released ;
- Connect the CAN_TO_USB to the usb point of the notebook. The connection diagram is shown in Figure 3.4.



Figure 3.4 CAN connection diagram

ROS installation and environment setting

For installation details, please refer to

<http://wiki.ros.org/kinetic/Installation/Ubuntu>

Test CANABLE hardware and CAN communication

Setting CAN-TO-USB adaptor

- Enable gs_usb kernel module

∨

复制代码

```
$ sudo modprobe gs_usb
```

- Setting 500k Baud rate and enable can-to-usb adaptor

∨

复制代码


```
$ sudo ip link set can0 up type can bitrate 500000
```

- If no error occurred in the previous steps, you should be able to use the command to view the can device immediately

▼

复制代码

```
$ ifconfig -a
```

- Install and use can-utils to test hardware

▼

复制代码

```
$ sudo apt install can-utils
```

- If the can-to-usb has been connected to the SCOUT 2.0 robot this time, and the car has been turned on, use the following commands to monitor the data from the SCOUT 2.0 chassis

▼

复制代码

```
$ candump can0
```

- Please refer to:

[1] https://github.com/agilexrobotics/agx_sdk

[2] https://wiki.rdu.im/_pages/Notes/Embedded-System/-Linux/can-bus-in-linux.html

AGILEX TRACER ROS PACKAGE download and compile

- Download ros package

▼

复制代码

```
$ sudo apt install ros-$ROS_DISTRO-teleop-twist-keyboard  
$ sudo apt install ros-$ROS_DISTRO-joint-state-publisher-gui  
$ sudo apt install ros-$ROS_DISTRO-ros-controllers
```

- Clone compile scout_ros code

▼

复制代码

```
$ cd ~/catkin_ws/src
```

```
$ git clone https://github.com/agilexrobotics/ugv_sdk.git
$ git clone https://github.com/agilexrobotics/tracer_ros.git
$ cd ..
$ catkin_make
```

Please refer to: https://github.com/agilexrobotics/tracer_ros

Start the ROS node

- Start the based node

∨

复制代码

```
$ roslaunch tracer_bringup tracer_robot_base.launch
```

- Start the keyboard remote operation node

∨

复制代码

```
$ roslaunch tracer_bringup tracer_teleop_keyboard.launch
```

Github ROS development package directory and usage instructions

*_base:: The core node for the chassis to send and receive hierarchical CAN messages. Based on the communication mechanism of ros, it can control the movement of the chassis and read the status of the bunker through the topic.

*_msgs: Define the specific message format of the chassis status feedback topic.

*_bringup: startup files for chassis nodes and keyboard control nodes, and scripts to enable the usb_to_can module.

4 Q&A

Q: TRACER is started up correctly, but why cannot the RC transmitter control the vehicle body to move?

A: First, check whether the drive power supply is in normal condition, whether the drive power switch is pressed down and whether E-stop switches are released; then, check whether the control mode selected with the top left mode selection switch on the RC transmitter is correct.

Q:TRACER remote control is in normal condition, and the information about chassis status and movement can be received correctly, but when the control frame protocol is issued, why cannot the vehicle body control mode be switched and the chassis respond to the control frame protocol?

A:Normally, if TRACER can be controlled by a RC transmitter, it means the chassis movement is under proper control; if the chassis feedback frame can be accepted, it means CAN extension link is in normal condition. Please check the CAN control frame sent to see whether the data check is correct and whether the control mode is in command control mode.

Q:TRACER gives a “beep-beep-beep...” sound in operation, how to deal with this problem?

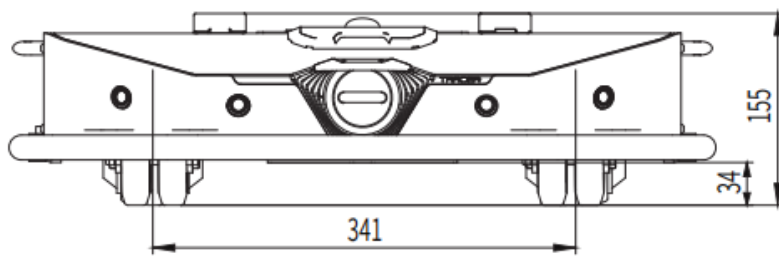
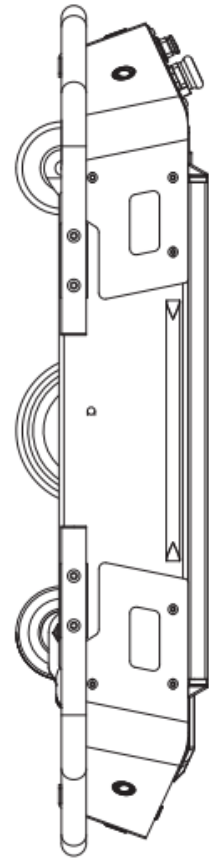
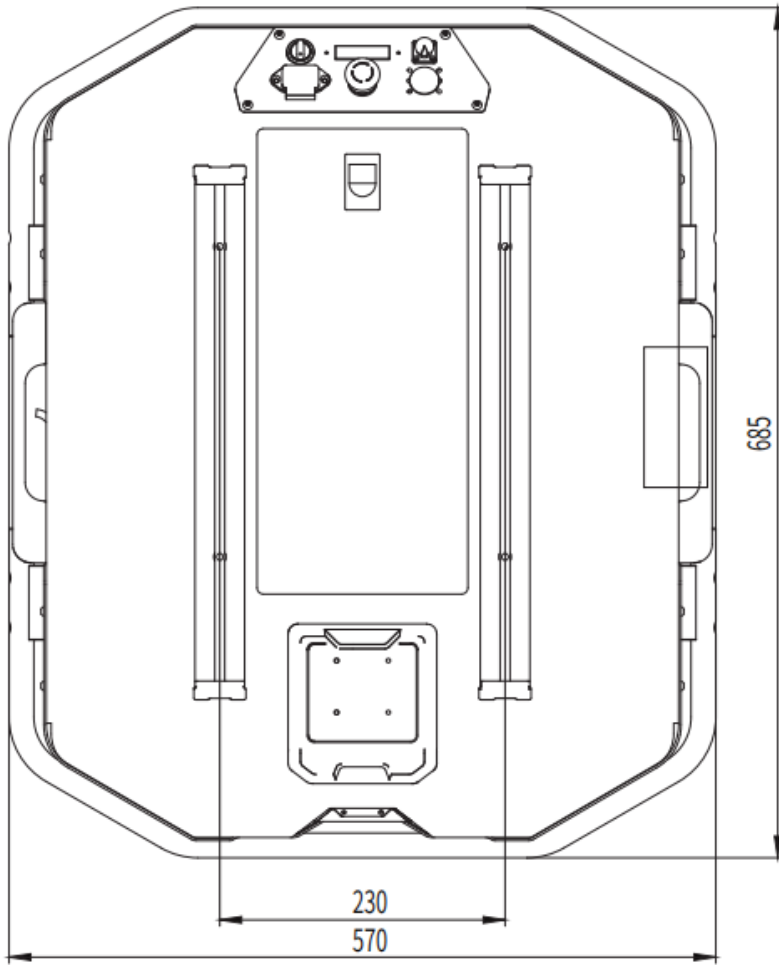
A:If TRACER gives this “beep-beep-beep” sound continuously,it means the battery is in the alarm voltage state. Please charge the battery in time. Once other related sound occur, there may be internal errors. You can check related error codes via CAN bus or communicate with related technical personnel.

Q:When communication is implemented via CAN bus, the chassis feedback command is issued correctly, but why does not the vehicle respond to the control command?

A:There is a communication protection mechanism inside TRACER, which means the chassis is provided with timeout protection when processing external CAN control commands. Suppose the vehicle receives one frame of communication protocol, but it does no receive the next frame of control command after 500ms. In this case, it will enter communication protection mode and set the speed to 0. Therefore, commands from upper computer must be issued periodically.

5 Product Dimensions

5.1 Illustration diagram of product external dimensions



Generation ROBOTS

Brand of the group **NGX** ROBOTICS

Official Distributor

gr@generationrobots.com

+33 5 56 39 37 05

www.generationrobots.com

