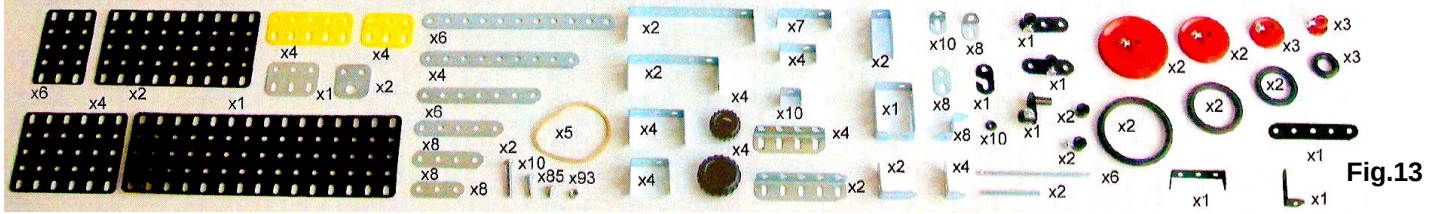


crude, with Strip parts & Brackets poorly made of of easily bent soft steel. (Whereas the parts in the basic, standard sets are of reasonable quality, and are almost certainly imported from India.) The thread is 5/32" BSW, with Phillips headed Bolts and hexagonal Nuts. The electric/electronic parts are mostly bought in locally and the Magnetic Sensor is actually a reed switch. The various electrical components could be used as building blocks for more sophisticated models but there is no interface to allow programmed control of them.

The Smart Tec Controller would meet this need when connected between a PC and a Robot, after the PC had been programmed using the very clever, user-friendly software supplied on a CD. The Smart Tec could also control a stepper motor but Modelix do not list one. Going one step further the MC2.5 Controller could, once programmed, act independently of the PC.



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MODELIX: S5

New System: PNCA Robótica e Eletrônica When Edmundo was investigating the MODELIX 'robotics' components he found that the Microcontroller MC2.5 is actually made by another São Paulo company called PNCA Robótica e Eletrônica, and that its main business is in the educational 'Robotics' market. PNCA's address is Rua: José Duarte de Souza, 700, São Carlos, São Paulo 13564-030. The details here are taken from the company's web site, www.pnca.com.br.

Geared Motors with Mounting Plates, a USB Lead, 2x 75mm Wheels, a Freewheel, metal structural parts, and N&B.

3 Sets are available, ALFA Hobby Kit, ALFA Educ Kit, and ALFA Expert Kit, all with 2008 after the name.

The **Educ Kit** has the Hobby parts plus a Servo Motor, various Wheels, 2 Light Sensors, a Temperature Sensor, an IR Sensor, & a Colour Sensor.

The **Hobby Kit** includes the Control Module MC2.5, software Legal 2008, 2 Tracking Sensors, 2 Contact Sensors, 2

The **Expert Kit** has the Educ parts plus another Servo Motor, and a Noise Sensor.

The **structural parts** and the Geared Motor are shown (not to scale) in Fig.1. The Grey Plate is the Motor Mount. The diameters of the grey Wheels are 30, 50, 75 & 100mm. The part called Freewheel is the black wheel with arm. The Axles look to be Screwed Rods. Holes are probable at 10mm pitch.

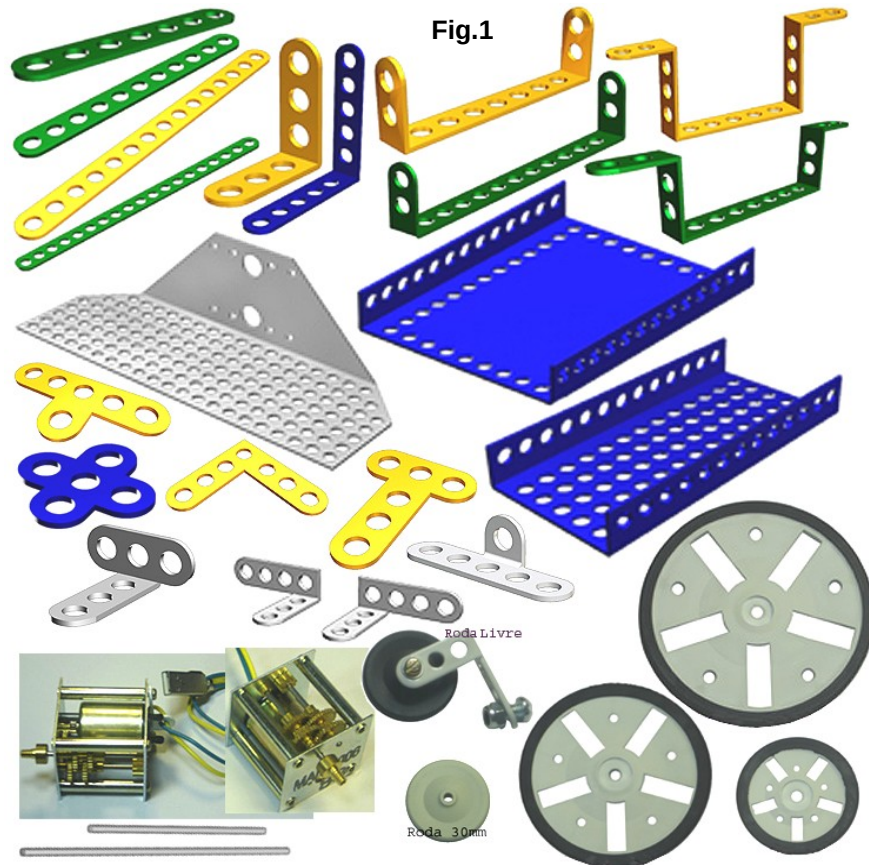


Fig.2 is one of the 'Robots' shown on the site and the grey unit is probably the Control Module 2.0. Presumably this was an earlier version of the 2.5 and no doubt there were earlier kits based upon it.



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PNCA: S1