

Project Proposal for Block Stacking Robot

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In recent years, the field of robotics has seen rapid advancements, and robots are now being used in a wide range of applications, from manufacturing to healthcare. One of the key challenges in robotics is the ability to manipulate objects in the environment, and this is particularly important in applications such as assembly, construction, and logistics. In this proposal, we aim to develop an application that enables a robot to stack blocks or create some kind of structure. The ability to stack blocks is an important task in many industries, and by developing this application, we hope to demonstrate the potential of robotics in this domain. Please find below the algorithms, simulator, and experiments we plan to use for developing an application that enables a robot to stack blocks or create some kind of structure.

Algorithms:

- Computer vision algorithms: To perceive block positions and orientations, we plan to use computer vision algorithms such as object detection and tracking and pose estimation. These algorithms can help the robot to detect the blocks, estimate their pose, and track them as they move around the workspace.
- Motion planning algorithms: To plan manipulation behaviors, we plan to use motion planning algorithms such as Rapidly-exploring Random Trees (RRT) or Probabilistic Roadmaps (PRM). These algorithms can help the robot to find a collision-free path to move the blocks and stack them in the desired configuration.

Simulator:

We plan to use the **Gazebo simulator** to develop and test the application. Gazebo is a popular open-source robotics simulator that provides a realistic simulation of the robot and the environment. Using Gazebo, we can simulate the robot and the blocks and test the algorithms and the manipulation behaviors in a safe and controlled environment before deploying the application on a real robot.

Experiments:

We plan to run several experiments to evaluate the performance of the application. These experiments include:

- Perception experiments: we will evaluate the performance of the computer vision algorithms by testing their accuracy in detecting and tracking the blocks and estimating their pose.
- Planning experiments: we will evaluate the performance of the motion planning algorithms by testing their ability to find a collision-free path to move the blocks and stack them in the desired configuration.
- Performance experiments: we will evaluate the overall performance of the application by testing its ability to stack the blocks in different configurations, under varying levels of complexity and with varying number of blocks.

In summary, this proposal outlines the algorithms, simulator, and experiments that we plan to use to develop an application that enables a robot to stack blocks or create some kind of structure. By carefully designing and testing the application, we can ensure that the robot is able to safely and accurately manipulate the blocks to create the desired structure. Overall, this project has the potential to advance the field of robotics and contribute to the development of practical applications for robots in manufacturing, construction, and logistics.