

Mars Robot DSL

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1 Requirements of Mars Robot

2 Proposed layout of Mars Robot

The Mars rover uses two separate bricks to connect all peripherals. Because of this the two bricks need to communicate about the status of the different actuators and sensors.

This communication could introduce small delays, and as stated in Section 1 the most imported requirement for the rover is that it always keeps itself safe. Therefore we propose a layout where the most important sensors related to safety are connected to the same block as the two main motors. This ensures that the robot can always keep itself safe, even when the communication between the two bricks fails.

	Brick 1	Brick 2
Actuators	Left Motor Right motor Measurement Motor	
Sensors	Light left Light Right Ultrasonic Front Ultrasonic Rear	Color Sensor Gyro Sensor Touch Sensor Left Touch Sensor Right

Table 1: Connection of the sensors and actuators to the Mars Rover

The touch sensor are not considered essential safety sensors as the mars rover is very sturdy and contact with blocks can already be mostly avoided by the ultrasonic sensor on the front.

If it turns out that two ultrasonic sensors on the same brick are problematic then the front ultrasonic sensor of brick 1 will be interchanged with the gyro sensor on brick 2.

3 Development process of Mars Robot DSL and corresponding Missions

The Mars Robot DSL and corresponding missions will be developed in an agile way; the development is split into small sprints. Each sprint consists of designing, building, integrating and testing a particular function. At the end of each sprint a working product (DSL and code generation) is delivered.

These sprints ensure that the development process won't end in some form of integration hell of all the different sub-parts and shows possible errors in the design of the robot as early as possible. It also allows to check the product quick, and often, with the client, which ensures that the developed product matches the clients expectations.

The goal of the first sprint will be to write an proof-of-concept rover-program in Java to test all the different sensors and actuators and the communication between the two bricks. This has two main benefits, firstly it ensures that the design of the robot is correct and all the basic function of the robot work. Secondly, it provides an example for the implementation of the code generation.

Consecutive sprints will consist of implementing the different sensors and actuators, and writing the mission possible with the sensors and actuators implemented so far.

The selection of the goals for the next sprint is guided by the requirements of Section 1.