

Topic	ROBOTIC ARM 3	
Class Description	Students will learn how to attach a distance sensor with the robotic arm.	
Class	PRO C290	
Class time	50 mins	
Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a distance sensor to the robotic arm. • Getting values from the distance sensor. 	
Resources Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Laptop with internet connectivity ○ Earphones with mic ○ Notebook and pen ○ Smartphone • Student Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Laptop with internet connectivity ○ Earphones with mic ○ Notebook and pen 	
Class structure	Warm-Up Teacher -Led-Activity 1 Student-Led Activity 1 Wrap-Up	5 mins 20 mins 20 mins 5 mins
Credit & Permissions:	This project uses Webots , an open-source mobile robot simulation software developed by Cyberbotics Ltd. License	
WARM-UP SESSION - 10 mins		
Teacher Action		Student Action

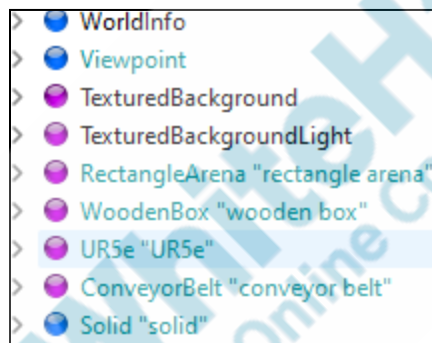
<p>Hey <student's name>. How are you? It's great to see you! Are you excited to learn something new today?</p> <p>Following are the WARM-UP session deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greet the student. • Revision of previous class activities. • Quizzes. 	<p>ESR: Hi, thanks! Yes I am excited about it!</p> <p>Click on the slide show tab and present the slides</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">WARM-UP QUIZ Click on In-Class Quiz</p>	
<p>Activity Details</p> <p>Following are the session deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciate the student. • Narrate the story by using hand gestures and voice modulation methods to bring in more interest in students. 	
<p style="text-align: center;">TEACHER-LED ACTIVITY - 15 mins</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Teacher Initiates Screen Share</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ACTIVITY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attaching a distance sensor with the gripper hand. 	
<p style="text-align: center;">Teacher Action</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Student Action</p>
<p>Do you remember what we did in the last class?</p> <p>Great, if you have any doubts from the last class, please ask.</p> <p><i>Note : Teacher will clear the doubts, if students have any.</i></p> <p>If there are no questions from the previous class, let's jump to today's class.</p>	<p>ESR : Yes, we attached a gripper hand with the UR5e robotic arm.</p>

In the last class, we faced a challenge where the gripper hand attached with the **UR5e** bot, was not able to **grip** the objects properly, as it didn't know when to claw the object.

So we discussed and came to a solution, where we decided to attach a **distance sensor** with the **gripper hand**, so that the arm can detect the objects in front of it and eventually, grab it.

To do so, let's first open the [teacher boilerplate link](#) and download all the files from it. Open all the downloaded files in the webots software.

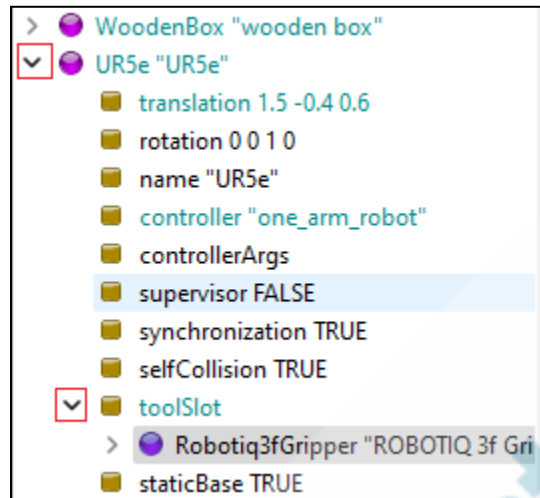
The **scene tree** will look as shown in the graphic.



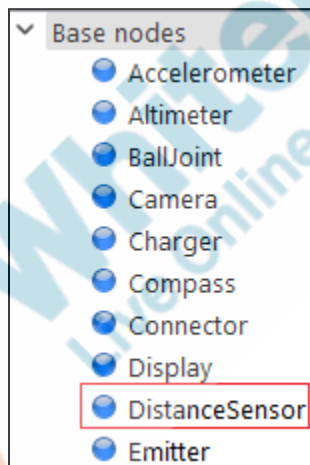
Now, let's attach a **distance sensor** with the **gripper hand**, so that it's able to detect the object in front of it. For that,

- Expand the **UR5e** node.
- Expand the **toolslot** property.
- Click on the **robotiq 3f gripper 'once'** so that it gets selected.
- Click on the **add object** button.

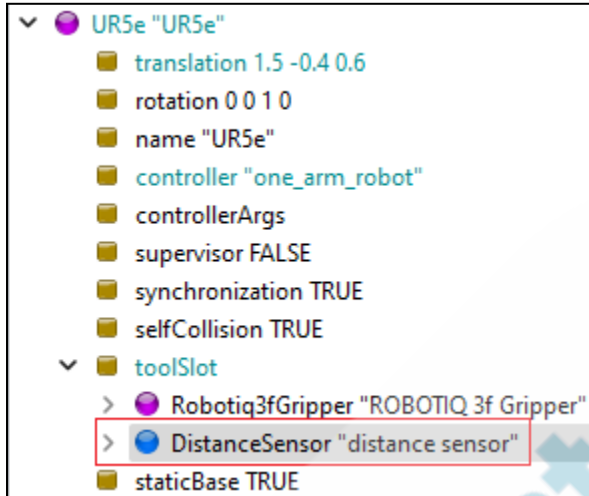
Note : We have selected or clicked on the gripper node 'once' before clicking on the add object button, so that the distance sensor node can come right under it.



Expand **base nodes** and **double click** on the **distance sensor node**.

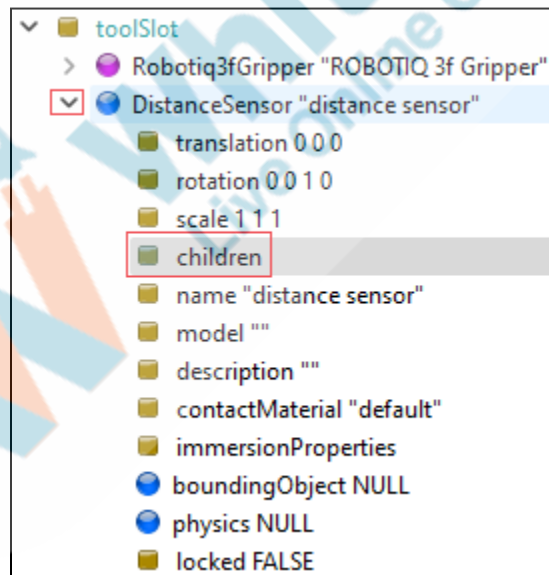


You will see that the **distance sensor node** is added under the **toolslot** property of the **UR5e** robotic arm.

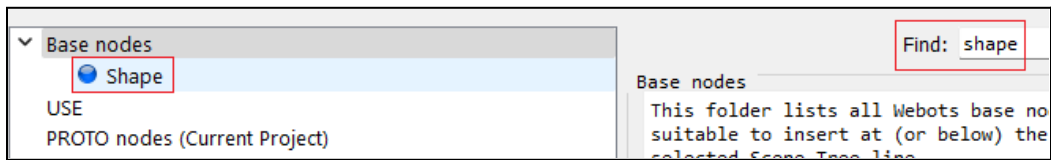


We need to add some **shape** and **appearance** to our **distance sensor node**. For that,

- Expand the distance sensor node.**
- Double click on the children property.**

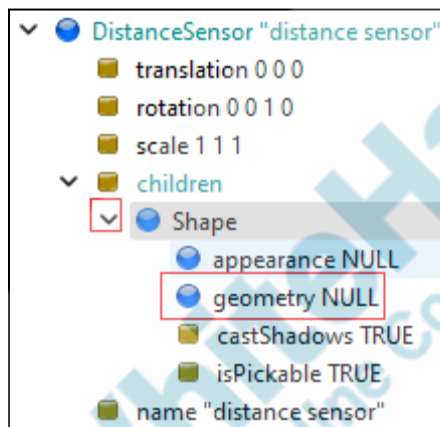


A window will appear. **Search** for the word '**shape**' in the **Find textbox** and once the search results are loaded, **double click** on the **shape** node to add it.

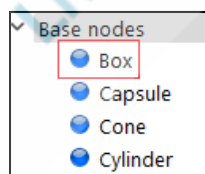


Let's give a **proper shape** to our distance sensor node.
For that,

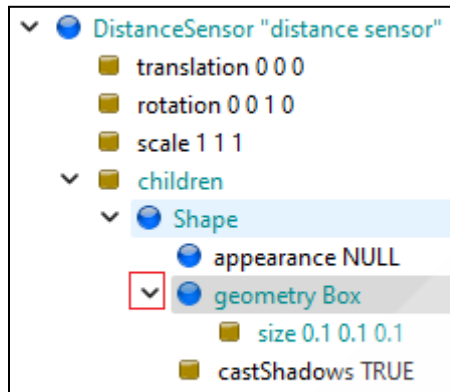
- Expand the **shape** node.
- Double click on the **geometry** property.



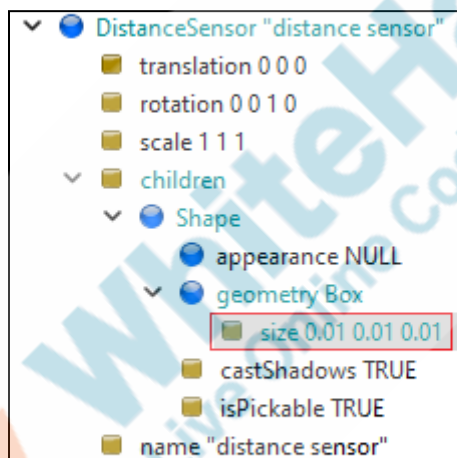
A window will appear. Expand the **base nodes** and double click on the **box** shape.



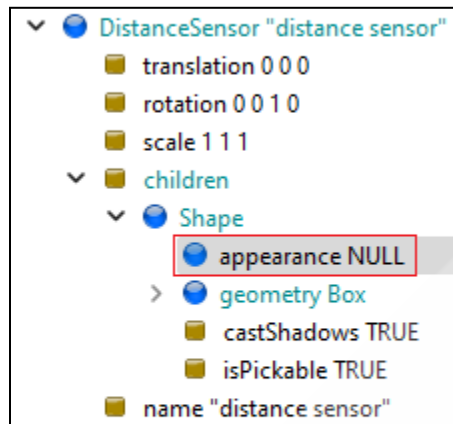
The box which we have just added is pretty big. Let's change its **dimensions**. For that, let's first **expand** the **geometry** property.



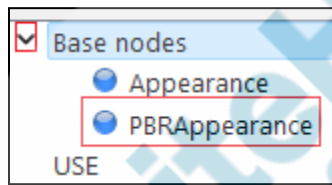
You will see the **size** property. Change the **size** to **0.01 m** in **x, y** and **z direction**.



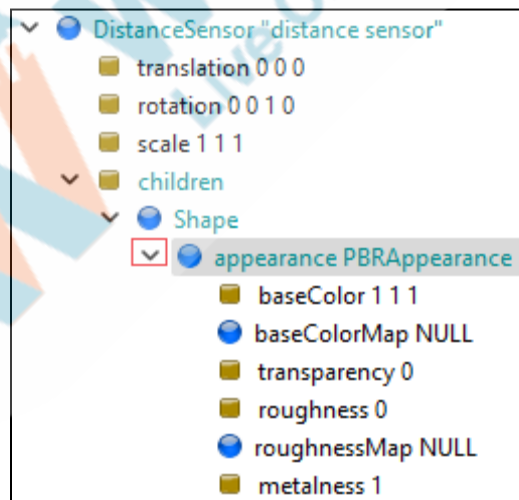
Now once the **dimensions** are adjusted it's time to select an **appearance** for the **distance sensor**. For that, let's first **double click** on the **appearance** property.



A window will appear. **Expand the Base nodes** and select the **PBR Appearance** node.

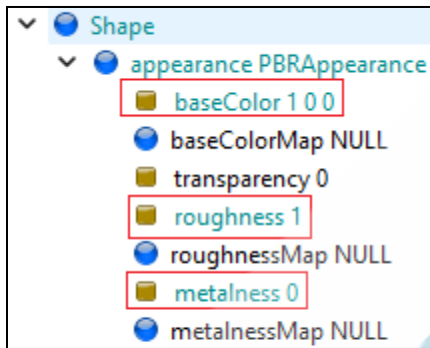


Next, expand the **PBR Appearance** node to change its properties.



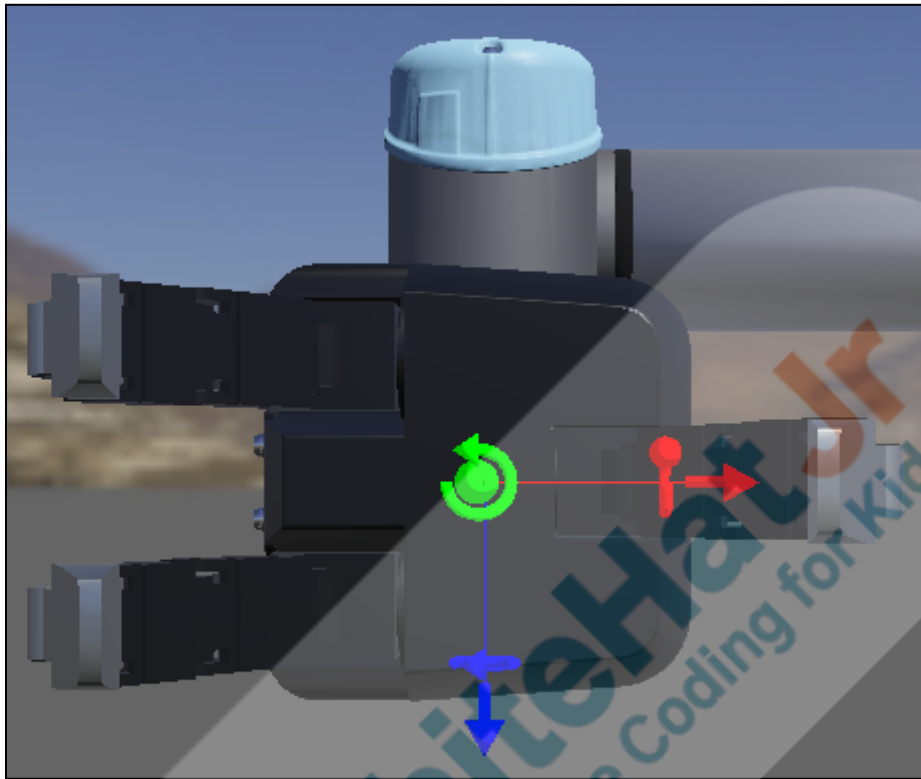
Let's set the **color** of the **distance sensor** as **red**. For that,

- a) Change the **base color** property. Set **1** for **red**, **0** for **green** and **0** for **blue**.
- b) Set the **roughness** to **1** and **metalness** to **0**.



Now there are two more challenges,

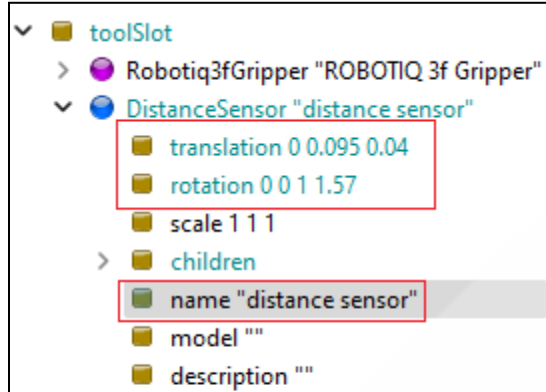
- 1) The **distance sensor** is **inside** the **gripper hand**.
- 2) The **axis** of the **distance sensor** is not aligned correctly. The **distance sensor** is **active** or **measures distance** in the **X direction (red axis)**.



To solve the first challenge, let's change the **translation** of the distance sensor node to **0** in **x** direction, **0.095** in **y** direction and **0.04** in the **z** direction. This will make sure that the distance sensor **comes out** of the gripper hand.

To solve the second challenge, **rotate** the distance sensor by **90 degrees** or **1.57 radians** in **z** direction. For that, we will have to change the **rotation property** of the distance sensor node as, **0** in **x** direction, **0** in **y** direction, **1** in **z** direction and angle as **1.57 radians**.

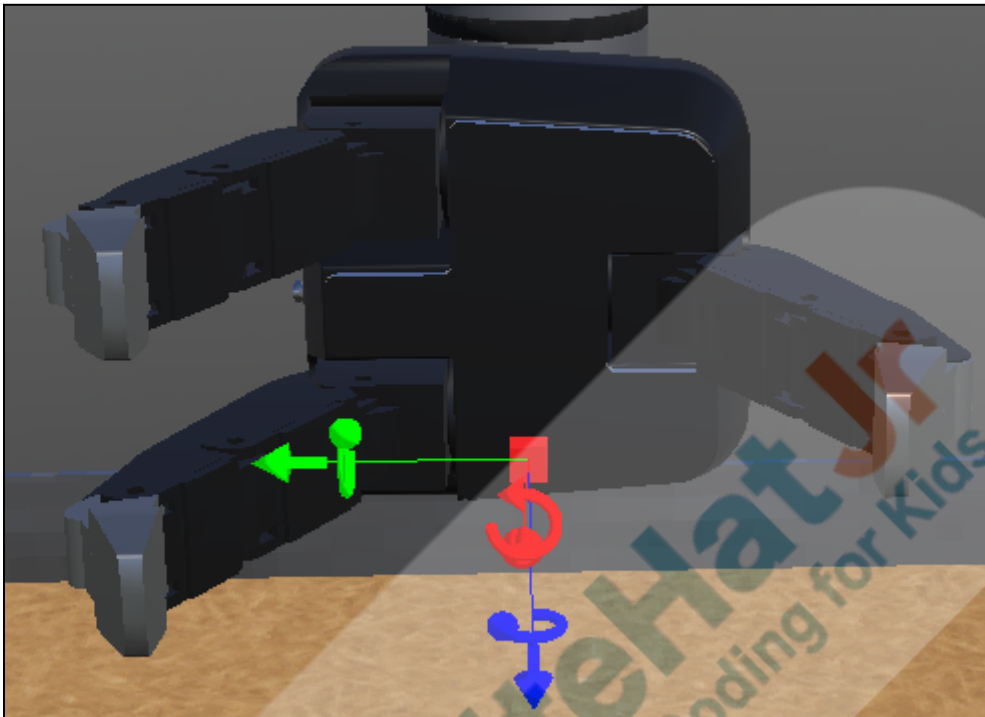
Finally, **hit enter** and **save** your work till here.



After adjusting the **translation property**, your distance sensor will look as shown in the graphic.



After adjusting the **rotation property**, the **axes** of the distance sensor will look as shown in the graphic.



Teacher Stops Screen Share

So now it's your turn.

Please share your screen with me.

STUDENT-LED ACTIVITY 15 mins

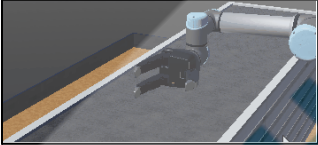

- Ask the **student** to press the ESC key to come back to the panel.
- Guide the **student** to start Screen Share.
- The **teacher** gets into Full Screen.

Student Initiates Screen Share

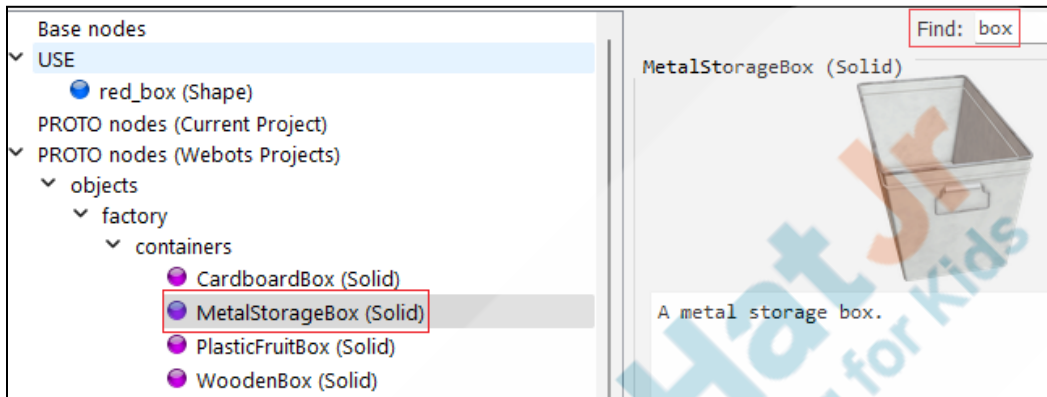
ACTIVITY

- Getting sensor values from the sensor.
- Picking the solid box from the conveyor and dropping it into a metal storage box.

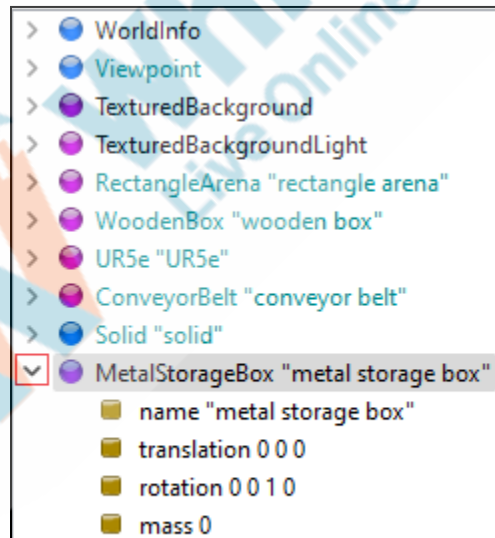
Teacher Action	Student Action
<p>Once we are done with the design part. Let's write some code, so that we can capture data from the distance sensor, and thus, detect the objects which are in front of it.</p> <p>For that, first let's open the student boilerplate link and download all the files from it. Open all the downloaded files in the webots software.</p> <p>Next, in the controller program, let's create an object named sensor for the distance sensor node using the .getDevice() method of the robot class.</p>	
<pre># distance sensor sensor = bot.getDevice('distance sensor')</pre>	
<p>Next, let's enable the sensor using the .enable() method. The enable() method takes the controller timestep as the argument.</p>	
<pre>sensor.enable(timestep)</pre>	
<p>Next, let's create our controller loop, where we can check the sensor values as,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use the .step() method of the Robot class, as the condition of our while loop. Within the loop, use the .getValue() method to get distance values from the sensor. Print the distance so that we can use it to frame our conditional statements later. Change the position of the UR5e robotic arm using the move_bot() method, in such a way, so that it goes over the conveyor belt, facing towards the solid objects. Give the positional arguments to the move_bot() method as, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shoulder lift position = 0.15 Shoulder pan position = 1.57 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elbow position = -0.1 • Wrist 1 position = -0.04 • Other arguments are equal to their default values. 	
<pre>while bot.step(timestep) != -1: val = sensor.getValue() print('Distance : ', val) move_bot(0.15, 1.57, -0.1, -0.04)</pre>	
<p>Save your work and run the simulation.</p>	
	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will see that if the red solid box is not in the range of the sensor, we will get a value of 1000 on the console. • Once the box is in the range of the sensor, the distance will start to decrease as the box moves towards the gripper hand or the sensor. 	
	
<p>Once we have our distance sensor up and running, let's bring a metallic container, which will hold all the solid boxes that will be picked and dropped by the UR5e bot.</p> <p>For that,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Click on the add object button. b) Search the word 'box' in the Find textbox. 	

- c) You will find a **metal storage box (solid)** listed under **proto nodes** as,
PROTO nodes → **objects** → **factory** → **containers** → **Metal storage box (Solid)**
- d) **Double click** on it, to get it in our environment.



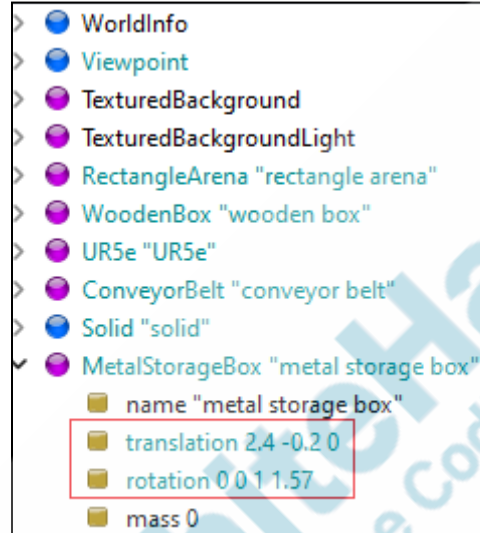
You will see a **metal storage box node** added in the **scene tree**. But we will have to reposition it. For that, let's first **expand** it.



Once you expand the node, you will see the **translation** and the **rotation properties** of the **metal storage box**.

Change its **translation** to **2.4** in **x** direction, **-0.2** in **y** direction and **0** in **z** direction.

After changing the translation, change its **rotation** to **0** in **x** direction, **0** in **y** direction, **1** in **z** direction and specify the **rotation angle** as **1.57 radians** (or **90 degrees**).



Save your work till here. You will see the box repositioned as shown in the graphic.



Once we are done with the design part, it's time to write some code, so that the **UR5e robotic arm** can **pick** things up from the **conveyor** and **drop** them in the **metal storage box**.

For that,

- Let's get the value from the sensor using the **.getValue()** method.
- Check if the **distance** between the **solid box** and **gripper hand** (or the sensor) is **less** than **400** or not.
- If yes, first **grab** the object by changing the positions of the **lower knuckle** and the **middle knuckle** to **0.3 radians**.
- Wait for **10 timesteps** or **10 * 64 = 640 ms**, before moving the UR5e arm to the other place, using the **add_delay()** method.

```
# sensor code
val = sensor.getValue()
if val < 400:

    # Grab the object [close the claw]
    move_bot(0.15, 1.57, -0.1, -0.04, h = 0.3, i = 0.3)
    add_delay(10) # almost half second
```

Once you have grabbed the object,

- Lift the **shoulder** joint to **-0.1 radians**.
- Move the **elbow** and **wrist** joints to **0 radians**.
- Keep the gripper hand closed. Don't change the position for the lower and middle knuckles.
- Wait for **10** more **timesteps**, before moving the arm to another position.

```
# lift the shoulder, straighten the elbow and wrist
move_bot(-0.1, 1.57, 0, 0, h = 0.3, i = 0.3)
add_delay(10)
```

Once you have lifted the solid box,

<p>a) Move or pan the shoulder joint to -0.1 radians, so that the arm is over the metal storage box.</p> <p>b) Don't change any other positions.</p> <p>c) Wait for 10 more timesteps, before moving the arm to another position.</p>	
<pre># move the arm over box move_bot(-0.1, -0.1, 0, 0, h = 0.3, i = 0.3) add_delay(10)</pre>	
<p>Next, open the claws by changing the position of lower knuckle to 0.05 radians and middle knuckle to 0 radians.</p> <p>After that, wait for 10 more timesteps.</p>	
<pre># open the claws move_bot(-0.1, -0.1, 0, 0, h = 0.05, i = 0) add_delay(10)</pre>	
<p>Finally, go over the conveyor by changing the shoulder pan position to 1.57 radians.</p> <p>Wait for 10 more timesteps.</p>	
<pre># go over the conveyor move_bot(-0.1, 1.57) add_delay(10)</pre>	
<p>If there is no object in front of the UR5e robotic arm, stay over the conveyor waiting for the solid box.</p>	
<pre>else: move_bot(0.15, 1.57, -0.1, -0.04)</pre>	
<p>The complete code would look as shown in the graphic.</p>	

```
while bot.step(timestep) != -1:

    # sensor code
    val = sensor.getValue()
    if val < 400:

        # Grab the object [close the claw]
        move_bot(0.15, 1.57, -0.1, -0.04, h = 0.3, i = 0.3)
        add_delay(10) # almost half second

        # Lift the shoulder, straighten the elbow and wrist
        move_bot(-0.1, 1.57, 0, 0, h = 0.3, i = 0.3)
        add_delay(10)

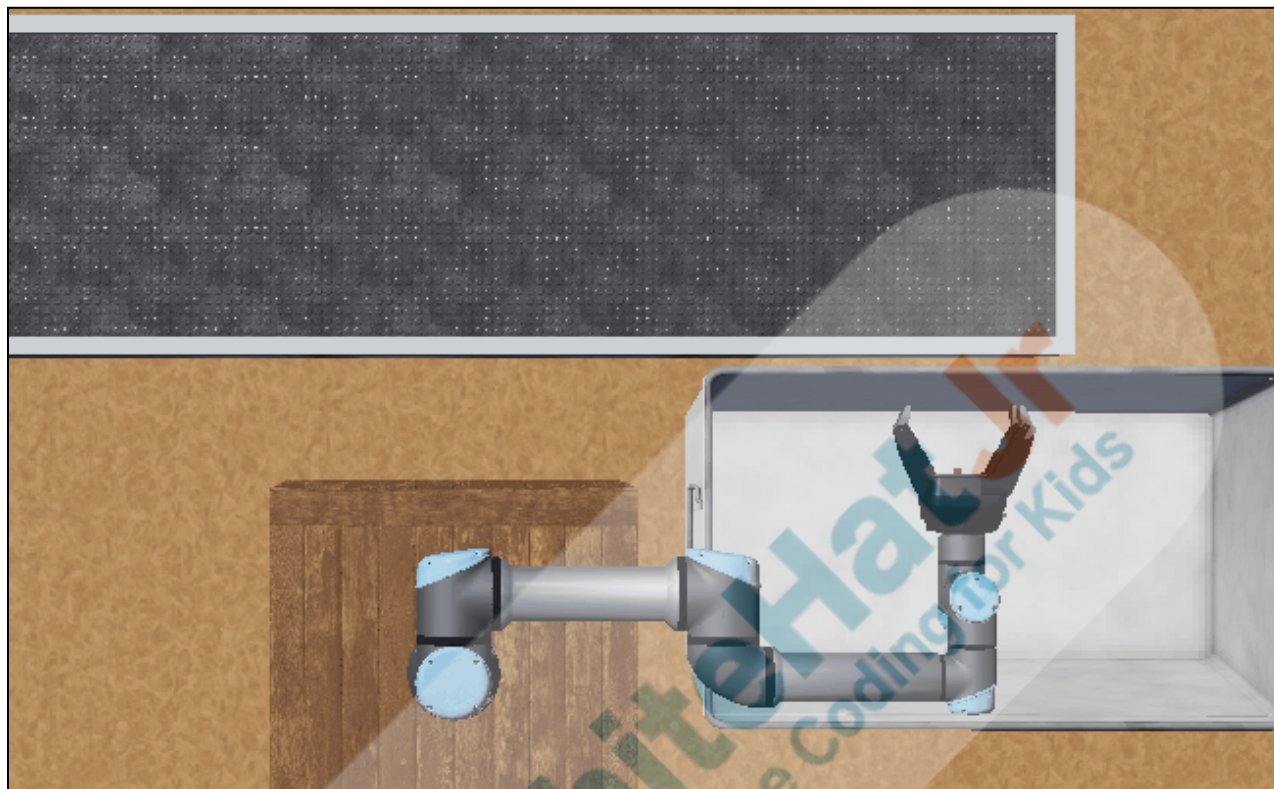
        move_bot(-0.1, -0.1, 0, 0, h = 0.3, i = 0.3)
        add_delay(10)

        # open the claws
        move_bot(-0.1, -0.1, 0, 0, h = 0.05, i = 0)
        add_delay(10)

        # go over the conveyor
        move_bot(-0.1, 1.57)
        add_delay(10)

    else:
        move_bot(0.15, 1.57, -0.1, -0.04)
```

Save your work till here and run the simulation.



[Click here](#) to view the reference video.

Teacher Guides Student to Stop Screen Share

WRAP-UP SESSION - 5 mins

Activity details

Following are the WRAP-UP session deliverables:

- Appreciate the student.
- Revise the current class activities.
- Discuss the quizzes.

WRAP-UP QUIZ

Click on In-Class Quiz

Activity Details

Following are the session deliverables:

- Explain the facts and trivia
- Next class challenge
- Project for the day
- Additional Activity (Optional)

FEEDBACK

- **Appreciate and compliment the student for trying to learn a difficult concept.**
- **Get to know how they are feeling after the session.**
- **Review and check their understanding.**

Teacher Action

You get “hats-off” for your excellent work!

In the next class, we will add a camera to our gripper hand so that we can create an object sorting system.

PROJECT OVERVIEW DISCUSSION

Refer the document below in Activity Links Sections

Teacher Clicks

✕ End Class

ACTIVITY LINKS

Activity Name	Description	Links
Teacher Reference 1	Boilerplate code	https://github.com/procodingclass/PRO-C290-Teacher-Boilerplate.git
Teacher Activity 1	Reference Code	https://github.com/procodingclass/PRO-C290-Reference-Code.git
Teacher Reference 1	Project	https://s3-whjr-curriculum-uploads

		whjr.online/55bc2ed1-9354-4bb8-8f5b-7dd8feadea31.pdf
Teacher Reference 2	Project Solution	https://github.com/procodingclass/PRO-C290-Project-Solution
Teacher Reference 4	In-Class Quiz	https://s3-whjr-curriculum-uploads.whjr.online/50cfce55-7044-4ee6-b8d4-19ea2cdd33d8.pdf
Student Activity 1	Boilerplate Code	https://github.com/procodingclass/PRO-C290-Student-Boilerplate.git
Teacher Reference 5	Final output gif	https://s3-whjr-curriculum-uploads.whjr.online/f2145c44-007a-4ace-94f0-9ae2c741f68d.gif