

Problem

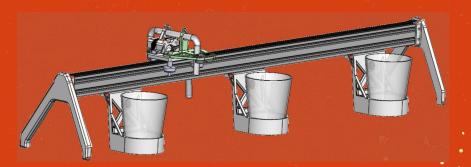
Imagine entering a crowded bar, hoping for a drink. However, the bartender is so overwhelmed with orders that she is unable to attend to you. Your day has been ruined!





Solution

Well, we have a solution. Beer-o-matic is here to help!





Demo

Spout moves to left limit

The left limit is the rest position for the spout

When a button is pressed



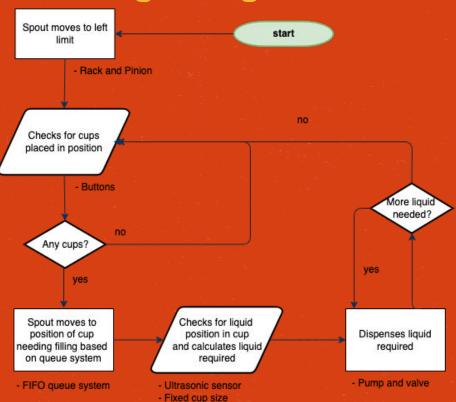
Spout travels to cup location

It verifies it is at the correct position using the IR sensor

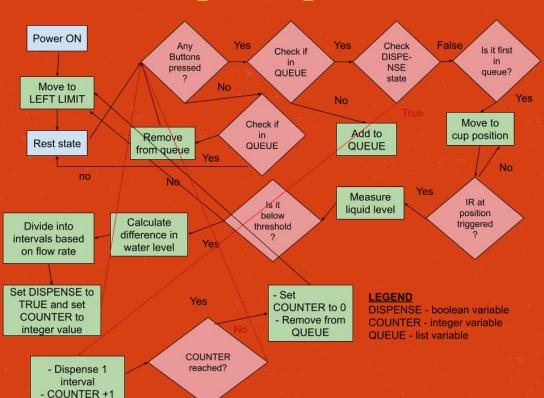
Pours amount of liquid required

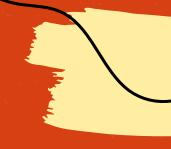
The ultrasonic sensor calculates how much liquid is required

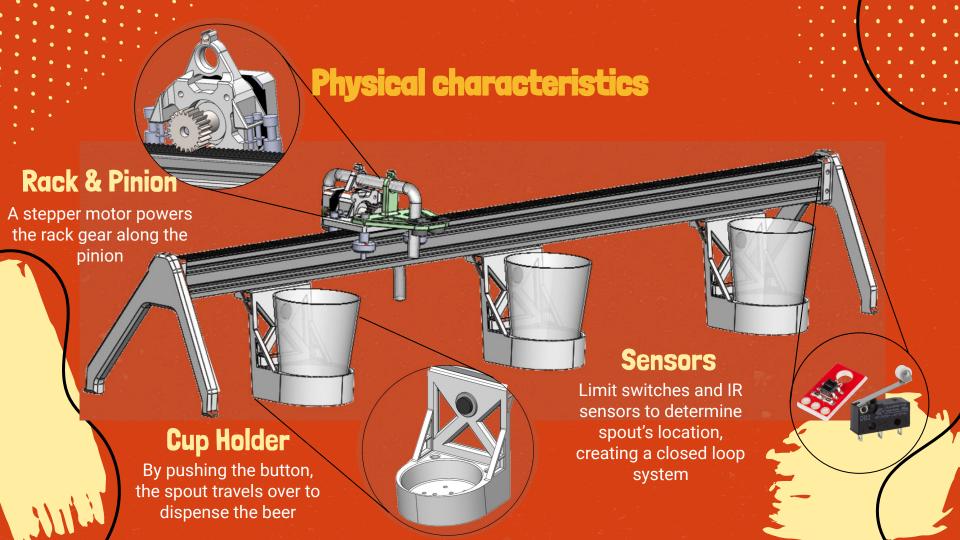
Logic Diagram



Logic Diagram











Position tracking: indexing

Using the limit switches and IR sensors, we are able to keep track of the position of the spout

Program logic

Safety considerations

The pump is programmed to turn off when the motor is running, and vice versa.

When the spout hits the limit switch, it changes the direction of travel.

Queue system

If 2 buttons are pressed simultaneously, the spout will serve one user before serving the other.







Engineering principles

Pump System

Vol. of cup = 500ml
Time to fill empty cup = ~3s
Flow rate = Vol./Time = ~200ml/s

Ultrasonic Sensor

- 1. Determine rate of height increase = flow rate/surface area
- 2. Ultrasonic sensor detects distance of liquid in the cup
- 3. Time to dispense = distance/ rate of height increase

Check valve

Beer is pumped from the keg and a check valve prevents dripping (single direction flow)



Materials

Fluid Pump

- 1. 3V Pump
- PVC Hose(1m length, 6mm inner diameter)
- 3. Container (10L)
- 4. Check valve

Linear Movement Spout

- 1. Stepper Motor and Driver
- 2. PLA filament for printing
- 3. Push button switch, toggle switch, limit switch
- 4. Voltage regulator
- 5. IR sensor, ultrasonic sensor
- 6. Wheel bearings
- 7. Aluminium T-slot profile (1m)



Future work

- Test out pump with actual beer, calibrate ultrasonic sensor to add in the additional height gain due to beer head
- Add in additional spouts for different types of beers



Thanks!

Now, you'll be able to get your glass of beer just at the push of a button!

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