

Blocks World

Introduction

The Blocks World project was done for the sole purpose of emulating the changing of location of each block according to what the content of the final state. Not only, the program will show each different state of change, but also report on the different commands manipulating certain blocks and print what location the robot hand is at and the next location the robot hand will go. The number of states will be printed alongside the list of commands for the state and relations for the block. This feature is to keep track of the number of possible steps for the blocks going from initial state to final state.

Process

The simulation process will require a bit of imagination. As you look at the simulator, picture the Start Location column as a table with the 3 stack locations turned 90 degrees counterclockwise, the leftmost edges of the text boxes being the table and the rightmost edges of the stacks being the top of the stacks. Then, as you enter character values try to keep in mind that the first character is on the table and the rightmost character is the top of the stack. Apply the same principal to the Output column.

Step 1:

The screenshot shows the 'Blocks World Simulator' window. It has two columns of text input boxes. The left column is labeled 'Start Location' and the right column is labeled 'Output Location'. There are three rows of input boxes in each column. Handwritten red text and arrows are present: 'Table' with an arrow pointing to the leftmost edge of the 'Start Location 1' box; 'Top of Stack' with an arrow pointing to the rightmost edge of the 'Start Location 1' box. The input boxes contain the following text: 'Start Location 1' has 'ab', 'Start Location 2' is empty, 'Start Location 3' has 'c', 'Output Location 1' is empty, 'Output Location 2' has 'ac', and 'Output Location 3' has 'b'. At the bottom of the window are four buttons: 'Enter', 'Run', 'Clear', and 'Cancel'.

Start Location	Output Location
Start Location 1 ab	Output Location 1
Start Location 2 	Output Location 2 ac
Start Location 3 c	Output Location 3 b

Buttons: Enter, Run, Clear, Cancel

For step 1, enter any number of characters you wish at each location without entering repeated values. Next, enter those same characters at each location in the Output Column. Click "Enter" and press "OK" on the prompt to proceed.

Blocks World Simulator

Start Location 1

ab

Start Location 2

Start Location 3

c

Output Location 1

Output Location 2

Output Location 3

Your Entries

i

ab in Start Location 1
c in Start Location 3
ac in Output Location 2
b in Output Location 3

OK

Enter

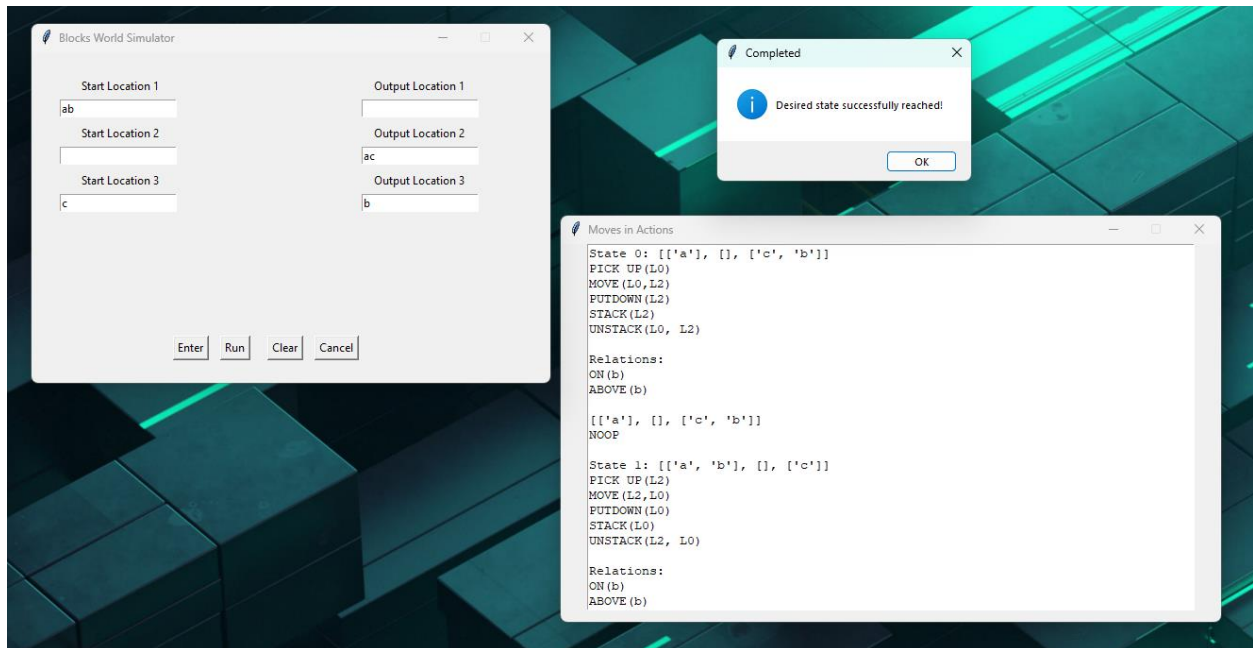
Run

Clear

Cancel

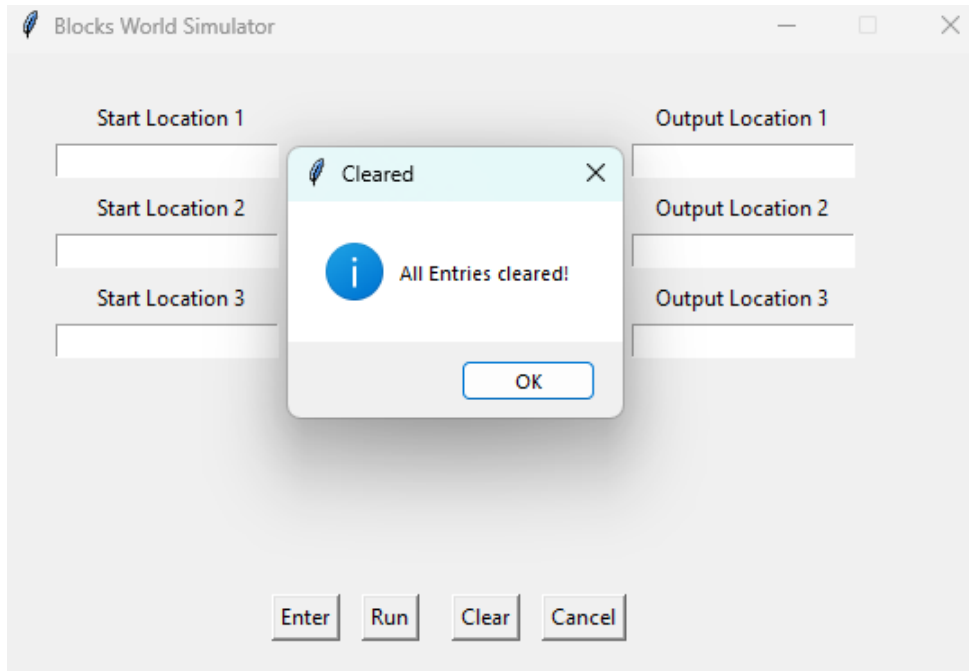
Step 2:

Click the “Run” button to start the simulation. The “Moves in Action” window showing the step-by-step process of the picking and placing of the characters as though they are blocks being moved by a robot hand. The first action represented by State 0 is the initial state with nothing moved just yet. The moves made for the state are listed below the initial state. L0 is Location 1, L1 is Location 2 and L2 is Location 3. The corresponding relationships are displayed, and the new state of the stacks are shown after the operations and relationships. NOOP stands for no operation.



Step 3:

Before you put in a new set of values, click on “Clear” to not only clear all entries but also empty all the stacks saved within the program.



NOTE: If you want speedy results, it is highly recommended that no more than 6 characters should be used for the simulation due to the complexity of its algorithm. You can still use more than 6 characters if the long wait time is not inconvenient for you.