# Budget Decision Matrices and Justifications

This section contains the justification for the selection of the major components of Roadie. The driving force for the selection process are decision matrices. Decision matrices aid in the decision process by assigning a 1 through a 5, with 1 being least desirable, to characteristics applicable to each item. Each characteristic is given a weight, with higher weights being more important to each item. The total of the weight/score pair is calculated for each item. The item with the highest total score relative to its opponents is deemed the preferable option in its category.

## Camera

The following tables and justifications are the basis for the decision making process of selecting a suitable camera for Roadie.

### Items Under Consideration

The following items have been considered for use as a camera on Roadie. Each item has a unique product ID as well as the vendor and a short description of the product, as depicted in *Table 1*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item ID | Vendor | Description |
| B00IUYUA80 | Amazon | Pixy is an image sensor paired with a dedicated processor. Pixy is able to process images from the image sensor and send condensed image and location data to the microcontroller at a frame rate of 50Hz. [1] |
| B008GWPC1Q | Amazon | 1.3 Megapixel webcam with six LEDs to illuminate objects. |
| B00K11RI6W | Amazon | 5.0 Megapixel webcam with built in microphone. |

Table 1: Cameras under consideration for Roadie

## Decision Matrix

The decision matrix used to select a camera for Roadie is depicted in Table 2. The decision matrix weighs the resolution of the camera, if lights are installed on the camera, perceived ease of use, availability of the camera as well as the cost of the camera. The highlighted row is the camera selected for use on Roadie.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Factor | Resolution | Lighting | Ease of Use | Availability | Cost | Total |
| Weight | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.2 |  |
| B00IUYUA80 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3.1 |
| B008GWPC1Q | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2.5 |
| B00K11RI6W | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2.4 |

Table 2Decision matrix for camera

The weighted matrix, or the matrix computed by multiplying the score in each category by its weight is show in Table 3. The total score for each item in the decision matrix (Table 2) is calculated by summing the values for each row in the weighted value matrix.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Factor | Resolution | Lighting | Ease of Use | Availability | Cost |
| B00IUYUA80 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 2.5 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| B008GWPC1Q | 0.2 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.1 | 1.0 |
| B00K11RI6W | 0.4 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 0.8 |

Table 3Weighted value matrix. It is comprised of the score for each category multiplied by the weight for the category.

The weightings for the decision matrix were created by using the data in Table 4

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Factor | Resolution | Lighting | Ease of Use | Availability | Cost |
| B00IUYUA80 | 1.0 Megapixel | No | Plug and play | In stock | $69.00 |
| B008GWPC1Q | 1.3 Megapixel | No | In-depth configuration required | In stock | $8 |
| B00K11RI6W | 5.0 Megapixel | Yes | In-depth configuration required | In stock | $10 |

Table 4 Quantitative and qualitative values of the cameras under consideration that led to the decision matrix.

### Justifications

The following section represents the reasoning behind each category and how their weights were determined.

#### Resolution

The resolution for a camera is directly related to how well

#### Lighting

In order for the object to be reliably identified, lighting conditions must remain relatively constant. One way to assure lighting remaining constant is to purchase a web cam with lights on it. It is for this reason that a camera without lights was scored at one, where as a camera with lights on it was scored at five.

Lighting was given a weight of 10% because the light is something to be considered, but it is not the most important aspect to the camera system.

#### Ease of Use

Ease of use is how AWTY perceived the difficulty in implementing each camera. A device that is plug and play with little to no set up was ranked a five, whereas a camera that has a learning curve with a great degree of difficulty would be ranked as a one. From our selections, two of the cameras, B008GWPC1Q and B00K11RI6W received a score of two as they will be difficult to implement, but their implementation will be guided by examples found on the internet. B00IUYUA80 was ranked a five because it includes software to natively recognize up to seven objects as well as software to recognize rotation angle and distance of an object.

The weighting for ease of use is set to 50% because Roadie will be completely dependent upon some form of camera to be able to correctly identify any challenge it arrives at. If the camera is not behaving as expected due to a difficult or poorly understood implementation, the whole system will fail.

#### Availability

The availability score for each item was obtained by scoring items on hand as a five, and items that need to be purchased as a one.

Availability was given a weight of 10% as it directly relates to the ability to prototype Roadie.

#### Cost

The values for cost for the cameras were obtained by giving the most expensive camera a score of one, and the least expensive camera a score of five. As there was only one other camera to consider, and its price was $2 more than the cheapest camera, a score of 4 was awarded since the price was so close.

Cost was given a weight of 20% as the cost of items are a very important factor in any budget, but not the most important consideration for this item.

# References

[1]

*http://www.cmucam.org/projects/cmucam5/wiki/Introduction\_and\_Background*. (n.d.).