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Bi-Weekly Report 1/31/18

The main things accomplished were going through the material left to us for Baxter operation, which included How-To’s for system launch, shell commands, and scripts for proper starting and closing ROS operation that Baxter must run in order to restart for further operation or run for the current operation. Our next accomplishment for the week was getting a key for access to work on Baxter and began reworking tutorials to refamiliarize ourselves with the system after the semester break. We had one major setback in that we lost a group member, so we spent a good amount of time trying to reorganize our individual tasks that we must complete in order to view this project as a success. After adjusting the scope of the project to better suit the end goal we set up a new timeline for major aspects of the project. We also arraigned a schedule to meet throughout the week that works for us remaining members.

Our goal in the next two weeks is to begin our initialization script for Baxter that will follow the How-To guides for successful startup of Baxter and then the closing of Baxter as well. The initialization will have verification that the board is in sight, verbal commands can be given, and that the appendages are in a position where they can move to eventually play chess. This will set the stage for full voice command, computer vision, and inverse kinematic operation. This goal is the most important goal in the whole project, so a lot of accuracy testing will be run through these upcoming weeks as the whole project relies on this scripts proper operation.