

Module 3:

Desktop and image based automation

Building a small desktop robot with Robocorp developer tools



Agenda

- Homework review
- Desktop automation
 - What are the differences between browser automation and desktop automation?
 - Start an application
 - Locator differences
 - Keyboard shortcuts
- Homework: Build your own 5-10 step desktop automation robot

Desktop automation

<https://robocorp.com/docs/development-guide/desktop>

- What are the differences between browser automation and desktop automation?
- Start an application
 - Open File / Open From Search / Open Application / Open Using Run Dialog
- Textual locators for Windows application
 - name / class / type / id / partial name / regexp
- Image based locators
 - image / alias
- Keyboard shortcuts
- Application menus

Case. Automating Windows application with accessibility properties

Approach. Using Windows locators combined with keyboard shortcuts and mouse clicks

Library to use: **RPA.Desktop.Windows**

Example application: **Notepad**

Case. Automating Windows application without accessibility properties

Applications which are not built with Microsoft accessibility technologies like Win32 API and MS UI Automation.

Can be approached using image and OCR recognition combined with key shortcuts and mouse

Libraries to use: **RPA.Desktop** (cross-platform library), **RPA.Desktop.Windows**
Example application: **GNUCash**

Homework: Build your own desktop Robot

Beginner level

- Automating any default Windows application

Advanced level

- Automating GnuCash with image locators

Target.

- Implement a Robot which in 5-10 steps does something with application
- Send result *.robot* file to robocorp.teacher@gmail.com

Q&A, support

Docs: <https://robocorp.com/docs/>

Portal: <https://robocorp.com/portal/>

Forum: <https://forum.robocorp.com>

Developers Slack

[Docs: Finding UI elements](#)

[Docs: Desktop library](#)

[Docs: Windows library](#)

[Available keyboard codes](#)

