機器魔方

RobotCubes

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研究領域

行動運算、人機介面、虛擬實境、雲端運 算、虛擬化技術與虛擬機器、嵌入式系統與 Android 系統、平行處理、多執行緒與多核 心技術、自動化系統



在現今科技快速進步的時代裡,機器人已不再是僅存在幻 想世界中的角色,例如現今家家戶戶常見的掃地機器人, 便是機器人融入我們日常生活環境的例子。在未來,會有 更多的機器人走入我們的日常生活。也因此,若能透過適 當的教具推廣機器人教育,則能讓更多人瞭解機器人,進 而促進機器人產業蓬勃發展。

值得注意的是,目前大眾能接觸到的市售機器人,其操作 大多侷限在既定應用範圍內(如掃地機器人只能掃地) 無法讓使用者更進一步的瞭解機器人的結構與組成、違論 撰寫程式,修改其控制邏輯以符合實際需求。而傳統的機 器人教具(如 Lego EV3、Lego Wedo、多關節機器人), 雖能夠讓使用者操作並組裝機器人、但均有過於複雜、組裝 耗時、價格昂貴等缺點。在此同時,因每個學習者的需求 都不同(有些著重於組裝、有些著重在控制邏輯或外觀) 傳統教具也無法同時滿足此一多樣化的需求。為了改善這 些問題,因此我們研製了「機器魔方」這個作品。以應對 日漸廣大日變遷快速的機器人教具市場。

「機器魔方」屬於一種可重構模組機器人教具,透過將機器 人的主要功能積木化,此一設計可讓使用者在以秒計的極短 時間內,便能任意組裝成不同結構型式的機器人。這些主要 核心功能包括扭力轉軸、彎曲關節、夾爪、距離感測、光源 追蹤與核心主控制器等。藉由快速的動手組裝,使用者便能 深入瞭解各種機器人的結構設計目的與原理,而透過行動裝 置APP,機器魔方提供易於操作且能自由組態的操作介面 讓使用者能同時透過硬體與軟體的操作,任意改變機器人 的結構與功能,從而達到學習與創作機器人的教學目的。

而針對著重於開發機器人控制邏輯的使用者,我們也提供 了 S4A 的功能,透過 Scratch 轉換為 Arduino 的過程,將 使用者新設計的控制邏輯燒錄到核心主控方塊中,如此機 器魔方的設計邏輯便能依照使用者的任意修改。另一方面 即使是年齡較小的操作者,也可透過機器魔方特有的動作記 憶功能,紀錄使用者對機器人的彎折、推動、轉動等動作

而在記錄完畢後,重複播放使用者想要機器人執行的動作, 從而達到無須外部控制,也能享受創造機器人的樂趣

更進一步,機器魔方能夠與市售的主流積木,如樂高、智高 積木等配合-起使用,也因此機器人的外觀設計可說毫無限 制。透過機器魔方,使用者可自由自在的揮灑創意,快速創 作出兼具功能性、結構性、外觀設計的機器人作品,並實際 應用在生活中,達到機器人普及教育的目標。

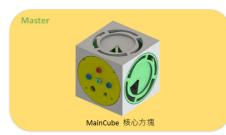




圖 1. 透過模組化的設計,使用者可任意的組裝機器魔方

Abstract

Nowadays, robots are not only the characters in a world of fantasy, but also being an important part of our daily life. For example, sweeping robots are already very common in regular family. Since robots could be more popular in the future, a well-designed robot learning kit could be the important key of the upcoming robot generation.

It is worth noting that commercial robot products usually have limited functions and applications, such as sweeping robots could only sweep. Users hardly understand the structure and program of commercial robots. On the other hand, traditional robot learning kits, such as Lego EV3. Wedo and multiple axes robots. They usually come with some common disadvantages, such as complexity, time consuming and expensive. Furthermore, different users usually have various requirements of robot learning. In order to improve this issue, we propose our design, RobotCubes, as an answer to the increasing and rapidly changing market of robot learning kits.

RobotCubes could be considered as a reconfigurable modular robot. With the well-designed function blocks, users could design and implement various types of robots in a few seconds. The function blocks include shafts, pivots, motors, jaws and multiple sensors. Users could understand various robot mechanics with the process of assembly. Moreover, users could control their creations with mobile devices easily. Base on the cooperation of well-designed hardware and software, the goal of robot learning could be reached.

Furthermore, for the user who interests on the control logic programing, RobotCubes provides the ability of S4A. Users could translate their control logic from scratch language to Arduino binary, and then totally substitute the original robot control program to their own. On the other hand, younger users could control RobotCubes just with their actions, such as blending \ pushing and twisting. RobotCubes could record actions from users as a script, and replay them. Therefore, users could have fun with robots without any additional devices.

It is worth noting that RobotCubes could be built with common blocks, such as Lego and Gigo blocks. Therefore, the various appearances of proposed robots could be created without any limitation. With these design features, users could learn the important acknowledge from RobotCubes by implementation, and create their own robots in the real life. Thus the objective of robot learning for everyone could be reached.

17th Macronix Golden Silicon Award:

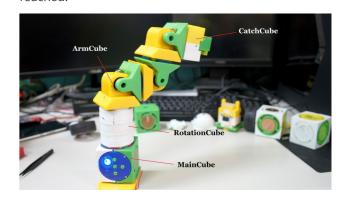


Fig 2. RobotCubes

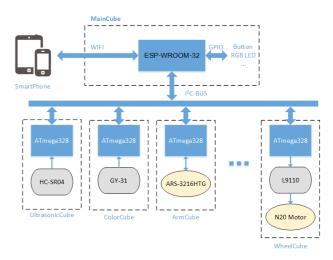


Fig 3. System structure