

Introduction to ROS2: Basics, Motion, and Vision

Geesara Kulathunga

- Working with tmux
- Workspace
- Build System
- ROS1 vs ROS2
- Nodes
- ROS1 Nodelets and ROS2 Composition
- Topics and Messages
- Launch and run
- Package
- Publisher, Subscriber, and Service
- Parameters

Working with tmux

tmux, a program that runs in a terminal. It allows multiple other terminal programs to be run inside it. To install tmux: **sudo apt install tmux**

- `Ctrl+b` `c` Create a new window (with shell)
- `Ctrl+b` `w` Choose window from a list
- `Ctrl+b` `0` Switch to window 0 (by number)
- `Ctrl+b` `,` Rename the current window
- `Ctrl+b` `%` Split current pane horizontally into two panes
- `Ctrl+b` `"` Split current pane vertically into two panes
- `Ctrl+b` `o` Go to the next pane
- `Ctrl+b` `;` Toggle between the current and previous pane
- `Ctrl+b` `x` Close the current pane

Check available ROS2 packages

```
apt-cache search ros_version, e.g., ros-humble
```

Set PATH and enable ROS2 within the system

```
source /opt/ros/ros_version/setup.bash  
echo "source /opt/ros/ros_version/setup.bash" » ~/.bashrc
```

change /opt/ros/ in case if you installed into another location

- 1 Default workspace is located at `/some_path/ros/ros_version/setup.bash`

You can create ros workspace in a location you prefer

```
mkdir -p /catkin_ws/src  
cd /catkin_ws  
colcon build  
cd ./install && pwd  
echo source 'pwd'/setup.bash » ~/.bashrc  
source install/setup.bash  
echo $AMENT_PREFIX_PATH
```

ROS Build System



- 1 **colcon build** is used to build the the ros packages and generate executable, libraries, and interfaces

to navigate to workspace

```
>cd ~/catkin_ws
```

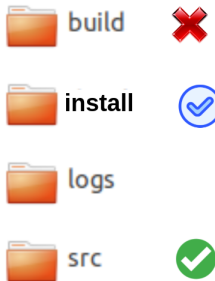
to build your package

```
>colcon build --packages-select package_name
```

Note:whenever package is built, it is required to

```
>source ./install/setup.bash
```

ROS Build System



to see catkin workspace

colcon list

Example

Hello world!

```
> cd /catkin_ws/src  
> git clone https://github.com/GPrathap/ros2\_intro.git  
> cd ../ && colcon build --packages-select hello_world  
> source install/setup.bash  
> ros2 launch hello_world pub_sub_variant_1.py
```


ROS1 Master (roscore) **No more in ROS2**



Figure: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmidmSS9YIk>

ROS1 Master (roscore)

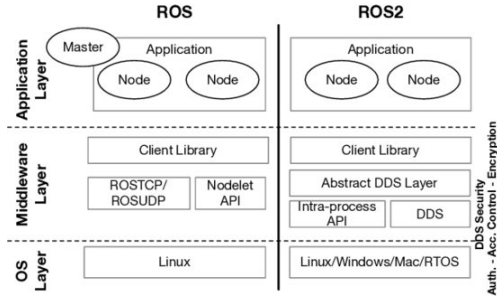
- 1 The centralized controller or manager
- 2 Register nodes (sub-programs) when starts with the master
- 3 Handle communication between nodes (sub-programs (nodes))
- 4 Also, provide the Parameter server, which is shared among the Nodes that is used to retrieve parameters
- 5 rosout, which is /rosout, logging purpose
- 6 roscore = master + parameter_server + rosout

to start the master

```
roscore
```

ROS2 there is no master, no parameter server, hence no roscore. All parameters are node-specific

ROS1 vs ROS2



DDS (Data Distribution Service) is an open-standard connectivity framework for real-time systems, which enables distributed systems to operate securely as an integrated whole.

Mazzeo, G., Staffa, M. (2020). TROS: Protecting Humanoids ROS from Privileged Attackers. International Journal of Social Robotics, 12, 827-841.



Figure: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmidmSS9YIk>

ROS Nodes (Processors/pub-programs)



- 1 Do you know the different between threads and processors
- 2 Each nodes executes as a processor
- 3 Node APIs: rclcpp, rclpy

to run a node

```
ros2 run package_name node_name
```

to see active nodes

```
ros2 node list
```

to get information about a node

```
ros2 node info node_name
```



Figure: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmidmSS9YIk>

- 1 Topics can be used to communicate among the nodes
- 2 Nodes can publish, subscribe or both, typically 1 to n connection exist between a publisher and subscribers

to see active topics list

```
ros2 topic list
```

to subscribe to a topic

```
ros2 topic echo /topic
```

to get information about a topic

```
ros2 topic info topic_name
```

- 1 The configuration of the system includes what programs to run, where to run them, what arguments to pass them
- 2 Launch files are written in Python, XML, or YAML
- 3 **executable**: executable of the node
- 4 **package**: which package that the considered node belongs
- 5 **parameters**: parameters to be passed to the node
- 6 **output**: where to log the output: console or log file

- 1 **launch folder:** contains launch files each of which may have defined multiple nodes or includes another multiple launch files
- 2 **src folder:** source files
- 3 **package.xml:** or manifest file, contains the package meta data
- 4 **CMakeLists.txt:** dependencies, executable, and exporting all meta information

dummy package with several dependencies

```
ros2 pkg create <package_name> --dependencies [depend1] [depend2] [depend3]
```

```
> ros2 pkg create first_package --dependencies rclcpp std_msgs  
> source install/setup.bash
```

ROS Package's Package.xml

- 1 **name:** name of the package
- 2 **version:** it should be defined with three integers separated by dots
- 3 **description:** objective of the package
- 4 **buildtool_depend:** dependencies that are required for the build tool
- 5 **build_depend:** dependencies of the package
- 6 **build_export_depend:** dependencies that are included in the headers
- 7 **exec_depend:** dependencies of shared libraries

ROS Messages



ROS Messages



ROS Messages

- 1 Message contains information to be transformed
- 2 Typically comprises of a nested structure of primitive data types, e.g., integer, double, float, boolean, and string.
- 3 Define as *.msg

to see type of a topic

```
ros2 topic type /topic
```

to publish a message over a topic

```
ros2 topic pub /topic type <message>
```

Odometry message example

```
std_msgs/Header header
string child_frame_id
geometry_msgs/PoseWithCovariance pose
geometry_msgs/TwistWithCovariance twist
```

Header message example

```
uint32 seq
time stamp
string frame_id
```

More info: http://docs.ros.org/en/noetic/api/nav_msgs/html/msg/Odometry.html

ROS Message Create

Friend's message

```
mkdir -p catkin_ws/src/hello_world/msg  
cd catkin_ws/src/hello_world/msg  
touch RobotDetails.msg
```

Robot's message content

```
string name  
string id
```


ROS Message: Standard Types

| Primitive type | Serialization | C++ | Python |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| bool (1) | unsigned 8-bit int | uint8_t (2) | bool |
| int8 | signed 8-bit int | int8_t | int |
| uint8 | unsigned 8-bit int | uint8_t | int (3) |
| int16 | signed 16-bit int | int16_t | int |
| uint16 | unsigned 16-bit int | uint16_t | int |
| int32 | signed 32-bit int | int32_t | int |
| uint32 | unsigned 32-bit int | uint32_t | int |
| int64 | signed 64-bit int | int64_t | long |
| uint64 | unsigned 64-bit int | uint64_t | long |
| float32 | 32-bit IEEE float | float | float |
| float64 | 64-bit IEEE float | double | float |
| string | ascii string (4) | std::string | string |
| time | secs/nsecs signed 32-bit ints | ros::Time | rospy.Time |
| duration | secs/nsecs signed 32-bit ints | ros::Duration | rospy.Duration |

ROS Message Create Cont.



Package Dependencies

buildtool_depend: ament_cmake

depend: rclcpp

builtin_interfaces

rosidl_default_generators

action_msgs

exec_depend: rosidl_default_runtime

ROS Message Create Cont.



to find dependencies

```
find_package(ament_cmake REQUIRED)
find_package(builtin_interfaces REQUIRED)
find_package(rosidl_default_generators REQUIRED)
```

to generate messages

```
rosidl_generate_interfaces(PROJECT_NAME
  "msg/FriendInfo.msg"
  "msg/R2D2.msg"
  "srv/FriendInfoService.srv"
  DEPENDENCIES builtin_interfaces )
```



- 1 Peer-to-peer
- 2 Execute sequentially, i.e, request and then have to wait till the response
- 3 *.srv is the file type that defines the service that has two parts: a request and a response. When creating a service, request and response is separated by "—", which is given in the next slide
- 4 Similar analogy how topic works, yet services are two way transports. A service does one-to-one communication, topic does many to many communication

ROS Service Create



create a service

```
mkdir -p catkin_ws/src/hello_world/srv  
cd catkin_ws/src/hello_world/srv  
touch RobotActions.srv
```

service

```
string name  
string id  
—  
string heartbeat
```

ROS Service Create Cont.



to generate a service (define in CMakeLists.txt)

```
rosidl_generate_interfaces(PROJECT_NAME  
  "msg/FriendInfo.msg"  
  "msg/R2D2.msg"  
  "srv/FriendInfoService.srv"  
  DEPENDENCIES builtin_interfaces )
```

to run a service

```
ros2 launch hello_world service_server.py
```

to call a service

```
ros2 launch hello_world service_client.py
```

ros2 service call service_name message

```
ros2 service call /set_heartbeat friend_msgs/srv/FriendInfoService "id: 456, value:  
5678"
```

```
ros2 run hello_world service_client 4567
```


to write a publisher

```
mkdir -p catkin_ws/src/first_package/scripts  
cd catkin_ws/src/first_package/scripts  
touch hello_pub.py  
chmod +x hello_pub.py
```

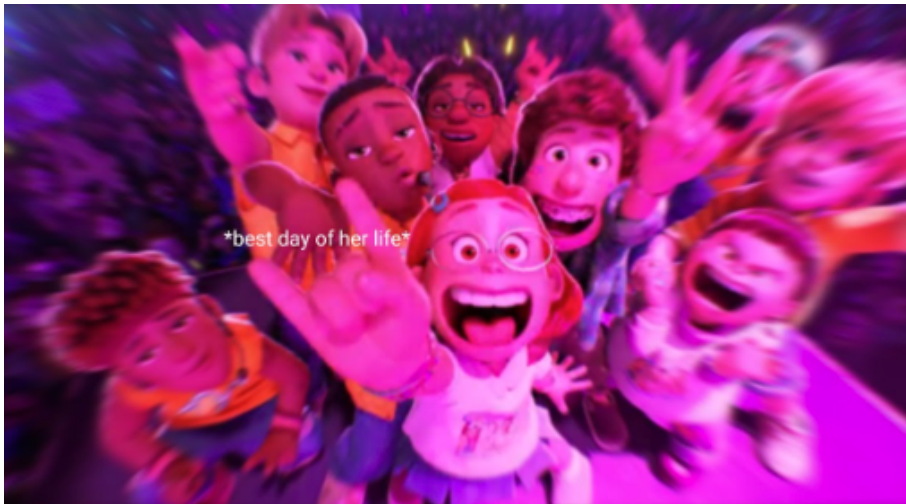
ROS Publisher



ROS Publisher Create



```
import rclpy
from rclpy.node import Node
from std_msgs.msg import String
class MinimalPublisher(Node):
    def __init__(self):
        super().__init__('minimal_publisher')
        self.publisher_ = self.create_publisher(String, 'topic', 10)
        timer_period = 0.5 # seconds
        self.timer = self.create_timer(timer_period, self.callback)
        self.i = 0
    def callback(self):
        msg = String()
        msg.data = 'Hello_World:_%d' % 567
        self.publisher_.publish(msg)
```



to write a subscriber

```
mkdir -p catkin_ws/src/first_package/scripts  
cd catkin_ws/src/first_package/scripts  
touch hello_sub.py  
chmod +x hello_sub.py
```

ROS Subscriber Create



```
import rclpy
from rclpy.node import Node
from std_msgs.msg import String
class MinimalSubscriber(Node):
    def __init__(self):
        super().__init__('minimal_subscriber')
        self.subscription = self.create_subscription(
            String, 'topic', self.listener_callback, 10)
        self.subscription # prevent unused variable warning
    def listener_callback(self, msg):
        self.get_logger().info('I heard: "%s"' % msg.data)
```

ROS Subscriber and Publisher Install



to install scripts (define in CMakeLists.txt)

```
install(PROGRAMS scripts/hello_pub.py scripts/hello_sub.py  
        DESTINATION lib/$PROJECT_NAME)
```

Let's try to say hello!

to run

```
ros2 run hello_world hello_sub.py  
ros2 run hello_world hello_pub.py
```


Parameters in ROS are associated with **individual nodes**. Parameters are used to **configure** nodes **at startup (and during runtime)**, without changing the code. The **lifetime** of a parameter is tied to the **lifetime of the node**.

- To see the parameters that belongs to each node **ros2 param list**
- To get a parameter value **ros2 param get /node_name param_name**
- To set a parameter value **ros2 param set /node_name param_name value**
- To load a set of parameters **ros2 param load /node_name param_list.yaml**
- To load a set of parameters when it starts **ros2 run /package_name /node_name --ros-args --params-file param_list.yaml**
- To set params when node starts **ros2 run /package_name /node_name --ros-args -p argv1:=456 -p argv2:=4567**

ROS1 Nodelets and ROS2 Composition



- 1 Conceptually node and nodelets (or compositions) are same
- 2 These are designed to reduce to overhead, i.e., without copying the data, when running on the same machine
- 3 Quite complicated to implement
- 4 **Nodelets** (or compositions) are designed to provide a way to run multiple algorithms on a single machine, in a single process, without incurring copy costs when passing messages

Composing multiple nodes in a single process

- To see the available component types **ros2 component types**
- To run the in-build ros2 component manager **ros2 component types**
- To see running component list **ros2 component list**
- To load a component **ros2 component load /ComponentManager
ros2_composition composition::SenderNode**
- To unload a component **ros2 component unload /ComponentManager
ros2_composition composition::SenderNode**
- **Compile-time composition**, e.g., **ros2 launch ros2_composition
composition_demo_launch.py**