Introduction to Robot Operating System (ROS)

Application to mobile robots

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Friday, May 31, 2019

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Outline

- Introduction
  - Historical Background
  - Robot Programming Before ROS
  - ROS is ..
  - ROS Equation
  - Applications
- ROS Concepts
  - Filesystem
  - Computation Graph
  - Community level
- ROS installation
- Future of ROS

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Intrduction

History and Legacy

- Started in 2007 by researches from Stanford AI Robot (Stair) and the Personal Robots (PR) Program and was sponsored by Willow Garage a visionary robotics incubator.
- Used Worlwide in Research and Industry.
- Currently supported by the Open Source Robotics Foundation.

Figure: Stair

Intrduction

Robot Programming Before ROS

- No common platform for develeoping robotics
- Build every thing from scratch
- Algorithm implementation

Intrduction

ROS is ..

A flexible framework for writing robot software. It is a collection of tools, libraries, and conventions that aim to simplify the task of creating complex and robust robot behavior across a wide variety of robotic platforms.

Intrduction

Ros Equation

Intrduction

Applications

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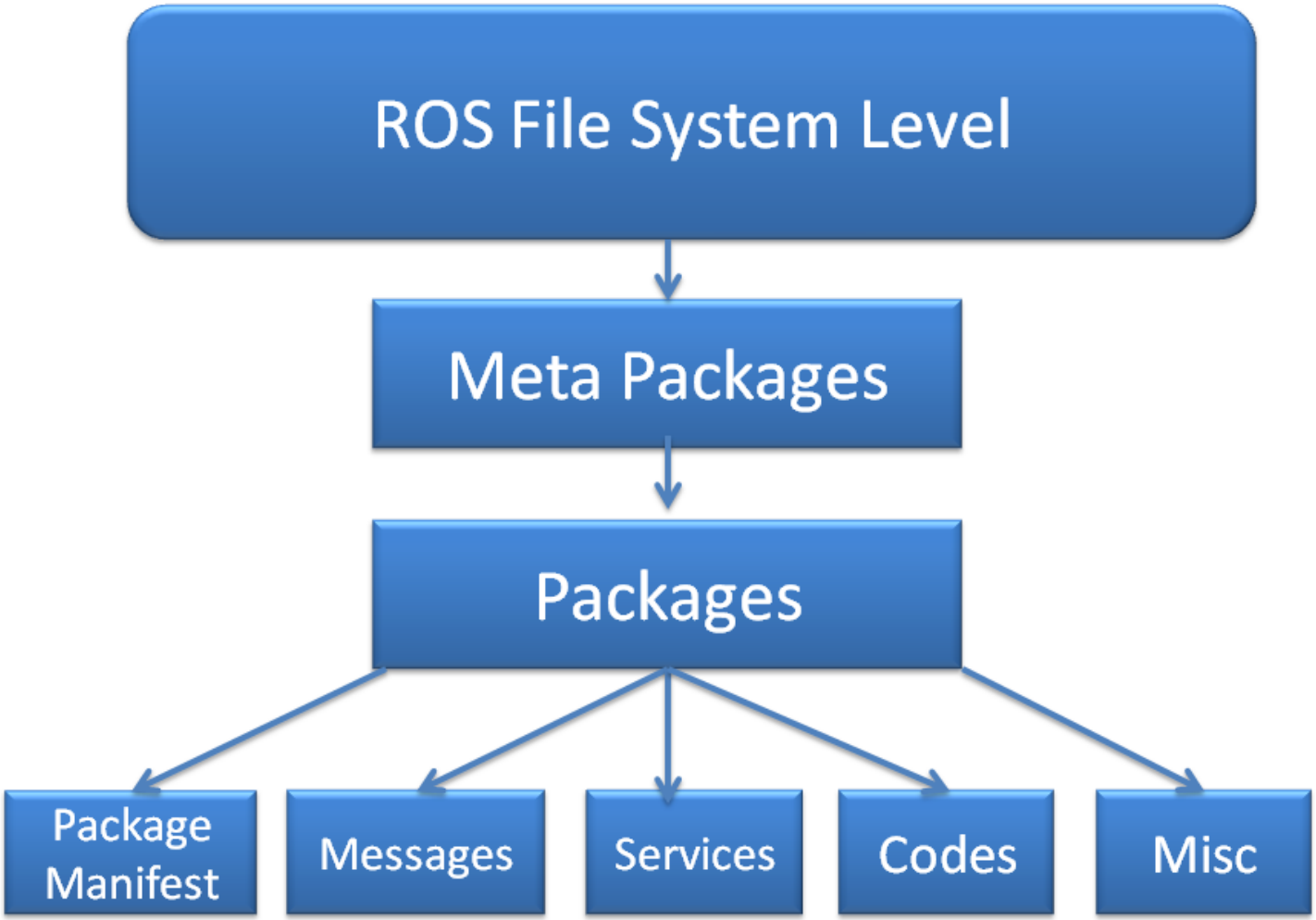
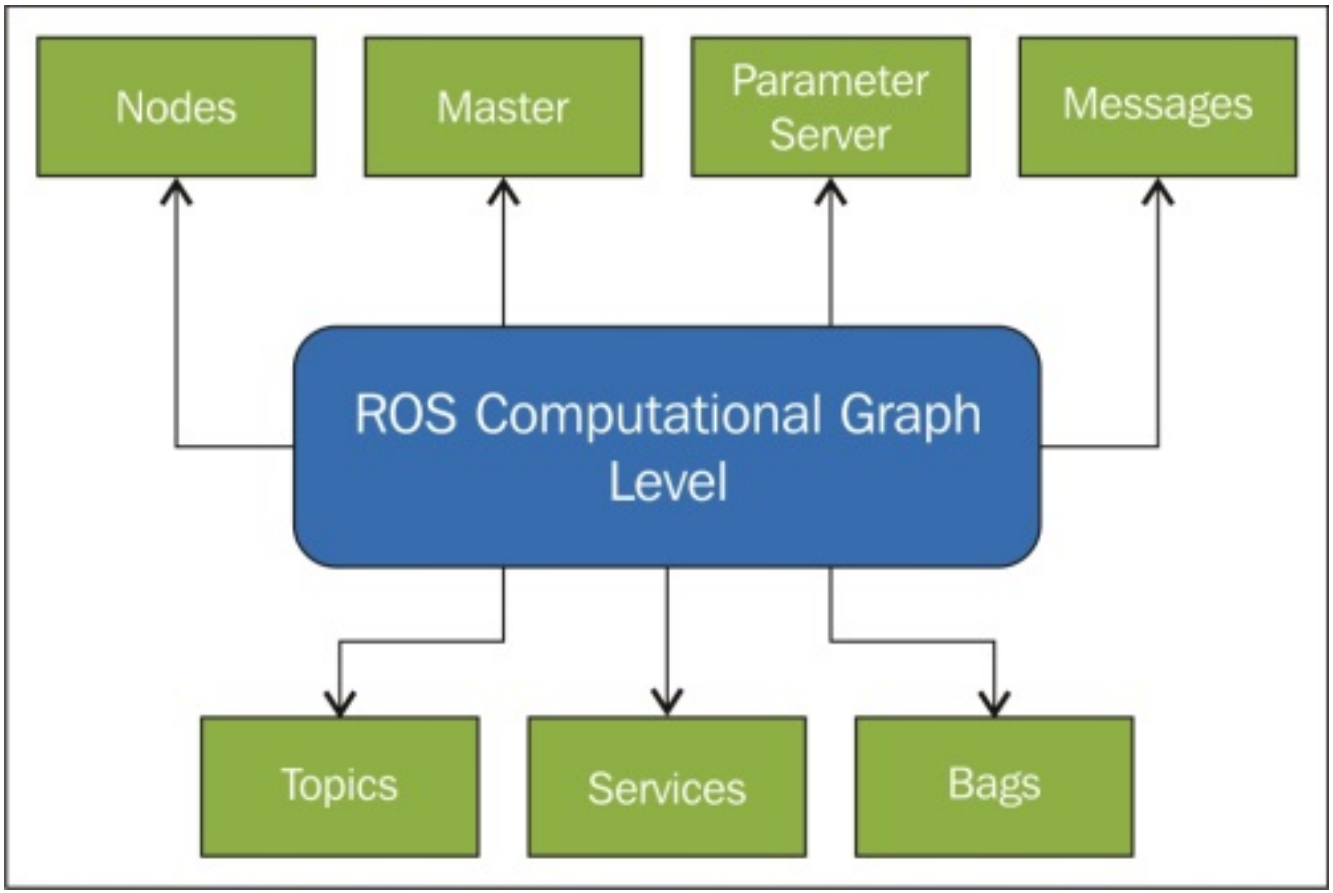
ROS Concepts

Filesystem



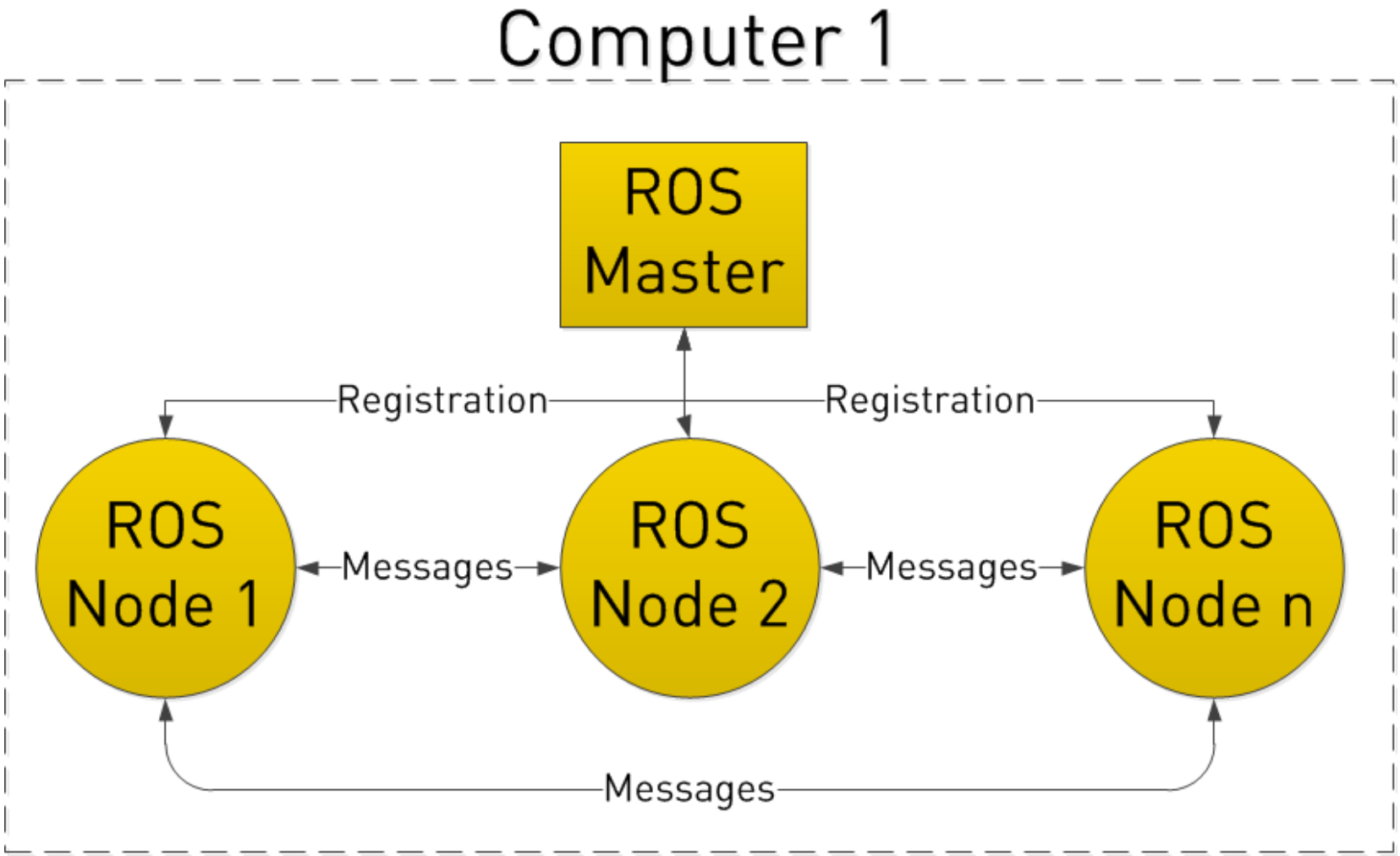
ROS Concepts

Computation Graph



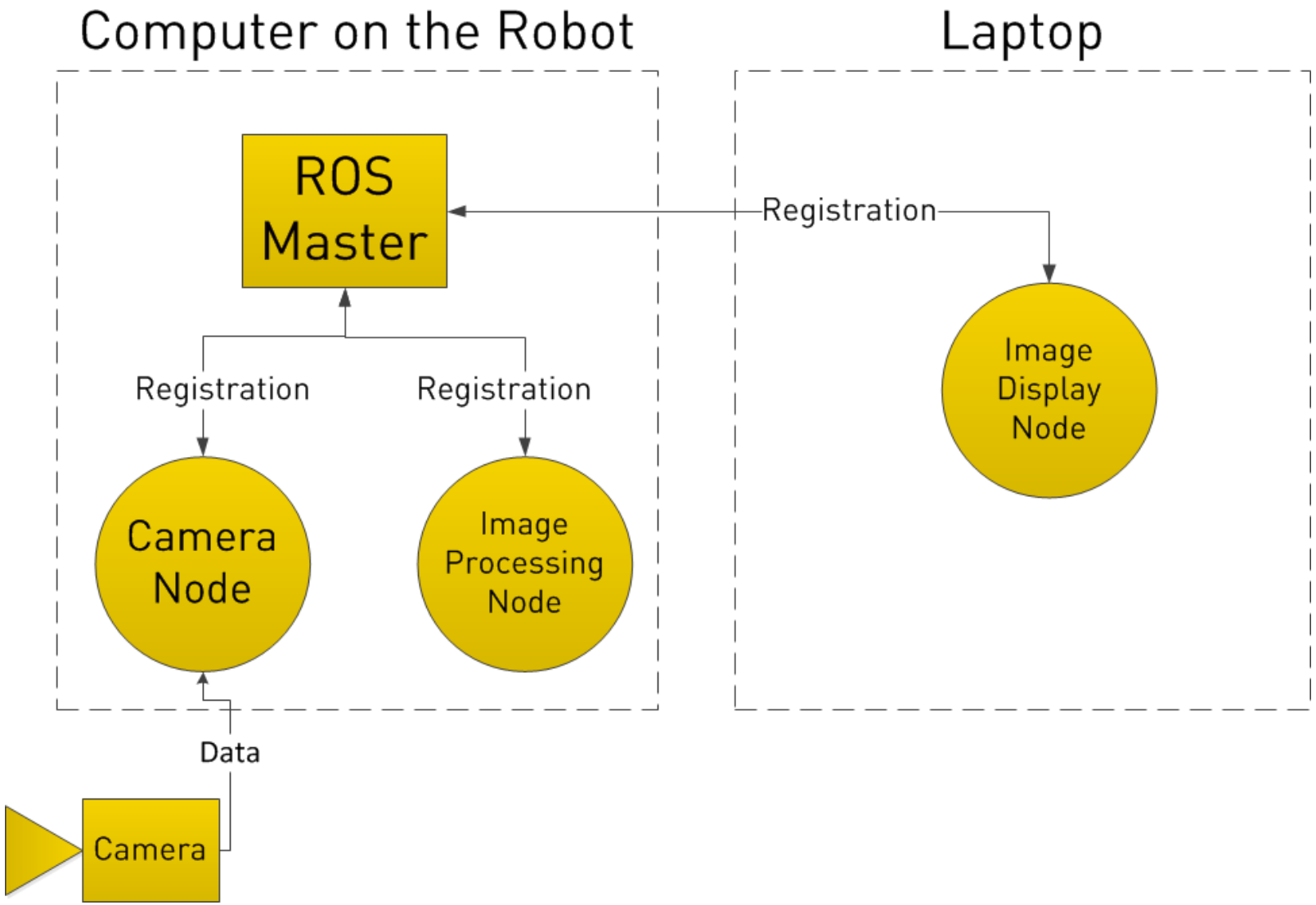
ROS Concepts

Computation Graph: Master



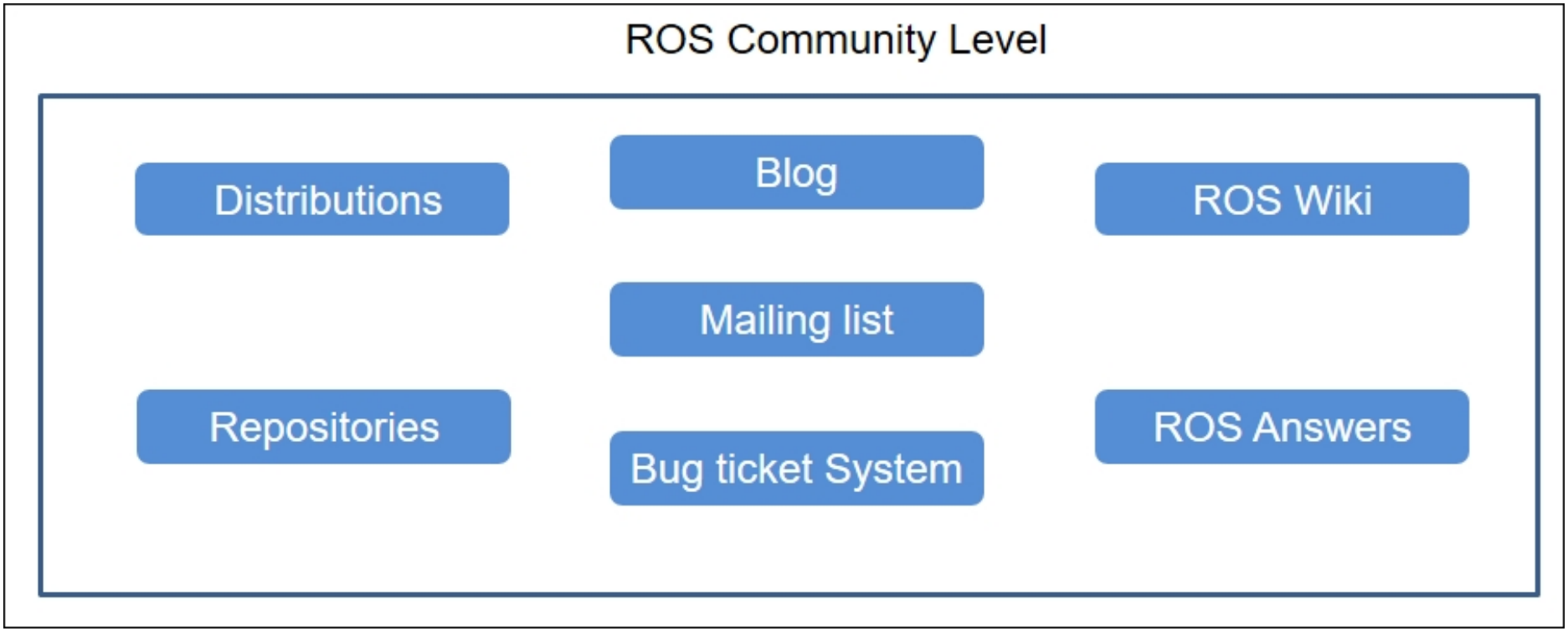
ROS Concepts

Computation Graph: Master



ROS Concepts

Community level



Installation

- Debian-based distributions such as Ubuntu.
- Many robots.
- Current supported distributions
  - ROS Kinetic Kame, Released May, 2016.
  - ROS Melodic Morenia, Released May, 2018

Installation

After choosing the distribution follow the instruction on ROS Wiki which start by:

- Configure your Ubuntu repositories.
- Setup your sources.list.
- Set keys.
- Install with "sudo apt-get install ros-kinetic-desktop-full".

Future of ROS

- Security
- Critical Missions
- Distributed Processing

Thanks !

Matlab Robotics Systems Toolbox

Application to mobile robots

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Outline

- Introduction
- Workflow
  - Desktop prototyping
  - Standalone ROS Nodes
- Examples

Introduction

According to mathworks.com

Robotics System Toolbox provides algorithms and hardware connectivity for developing autonomous robotics applications for aerial and ground vehicles, manipulators, and humanoid robots. Toolbox algorithms include path planning and path following for differential drive robots, scan matching, obstacle avoidance, and state estimation. For manipulator robots, the system toolbox includes algorithms for inverse kinematics, kinematic constraints, and dynamics using a rigid body tree representation.

Workflow

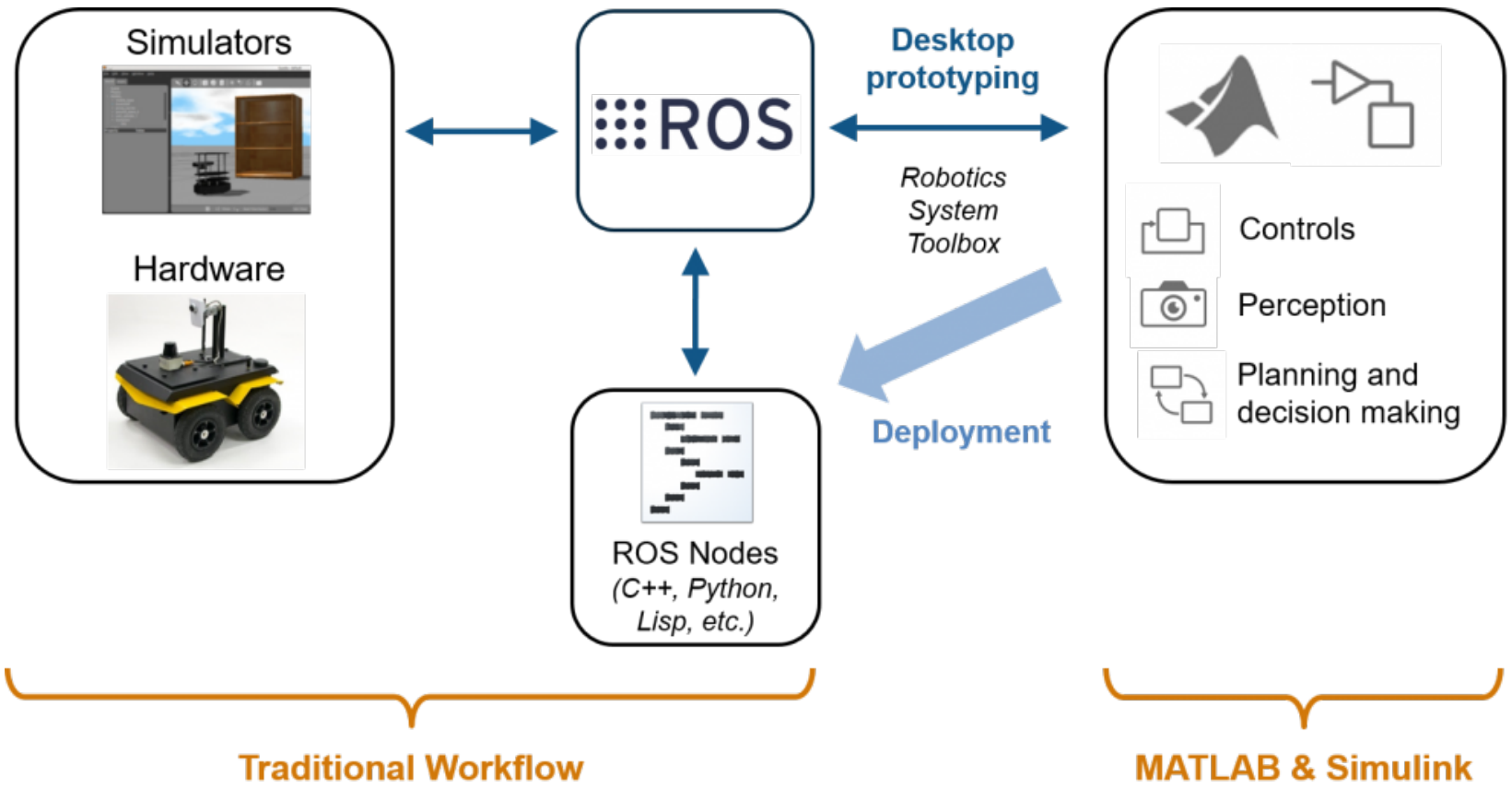


Figure: Matlab robotics tool box and ROS workflow. courtesy of mathworks.com

Workflow

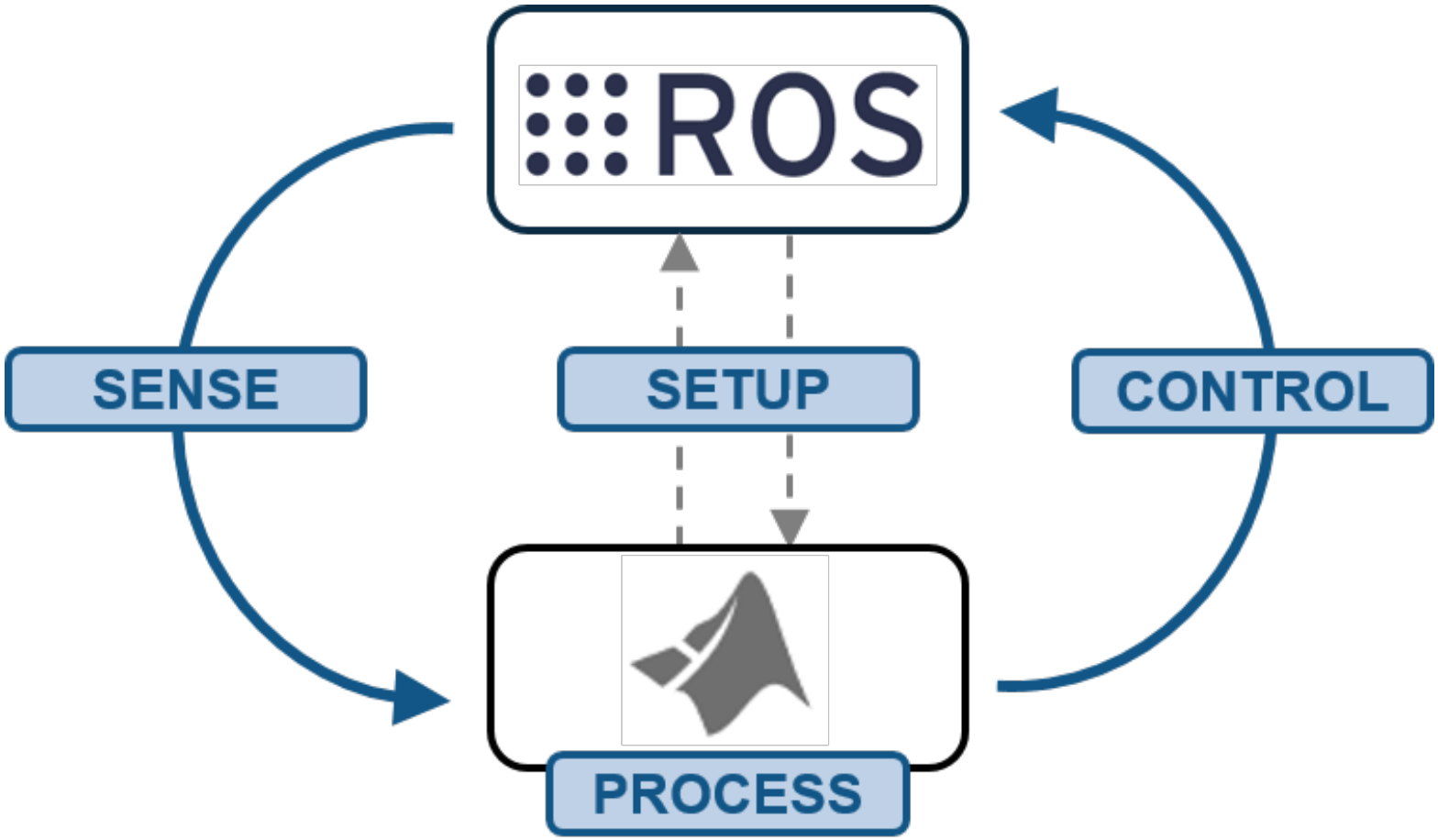


Figure: Matlab and ROS integration, courtsey of mathworks.com

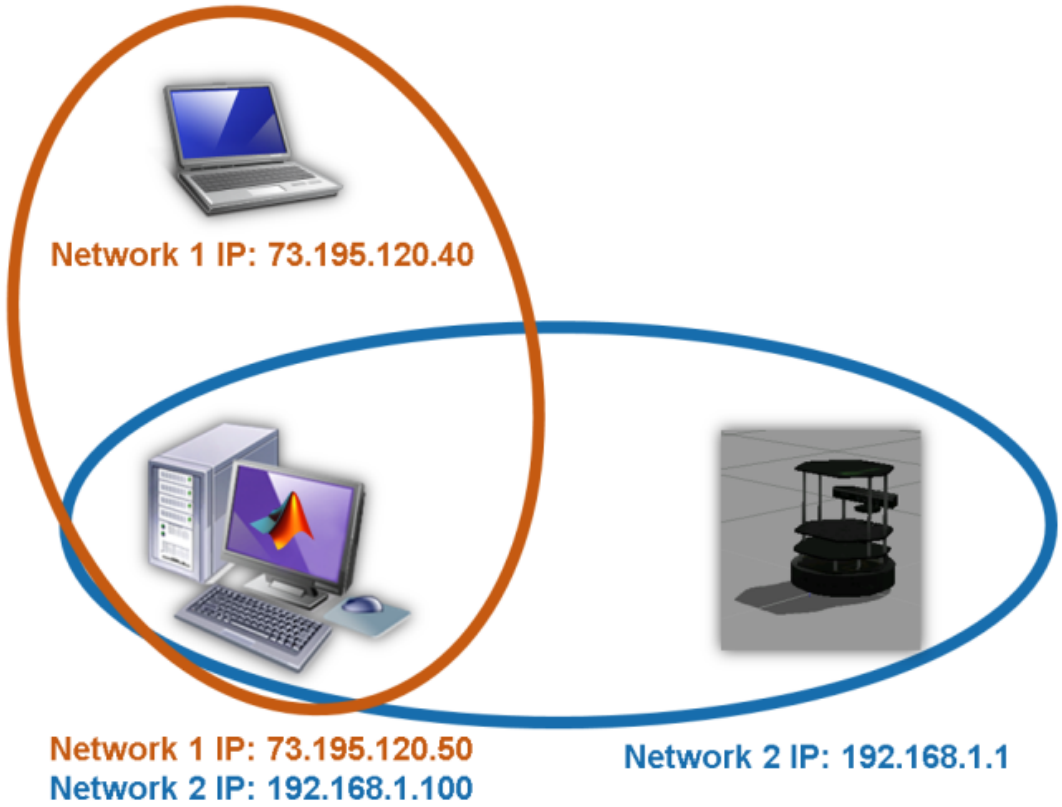
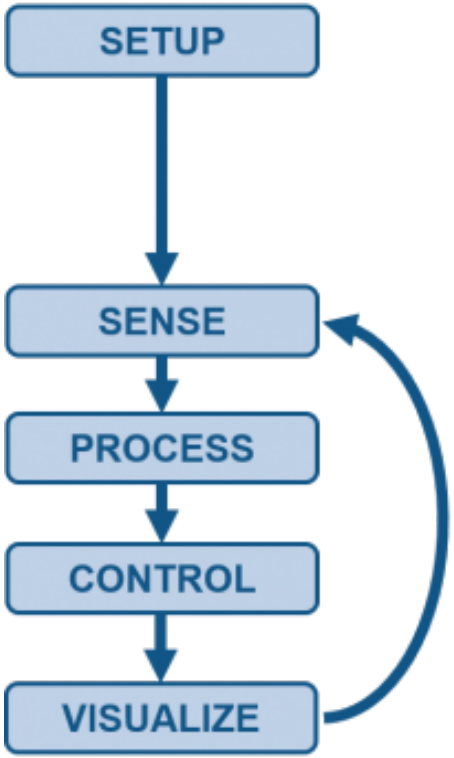


Figure: Matlab ROS desktop prototyping, mathworks.com

Workflow

Desktop prototyping




```
rosinit('ipAddress')
mySub = rossubscriber('/sub_topic');
[myPub,pubMsg] = rospublisher('/pub_topic');
currentTime = 0;

tic
while(currentTime < 10)
  recvMsg = mySub.LatestMessage;

  ctrlOut = myAlgorithm(recvMsg);

  pubMsg.FieldName = ctrlOut;
  send(myPub,pubMsg);

  currentTime = toc;
  plot(currentTime,ctrlOut)
end
```

Figure: Desktop prototyping code template, courtsey of mathworks.com

Worflow

Standalone Node

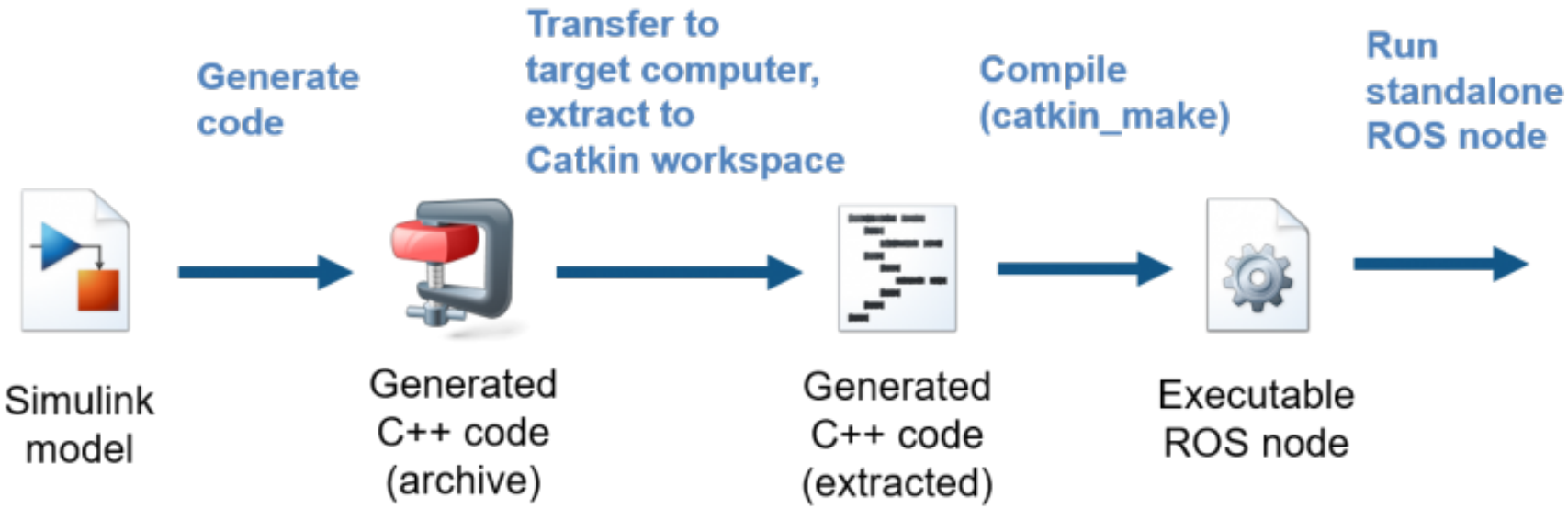


Figure: Generation of ROS standalone node, courtsey of mathworks.com

Workflow

Standalone Node

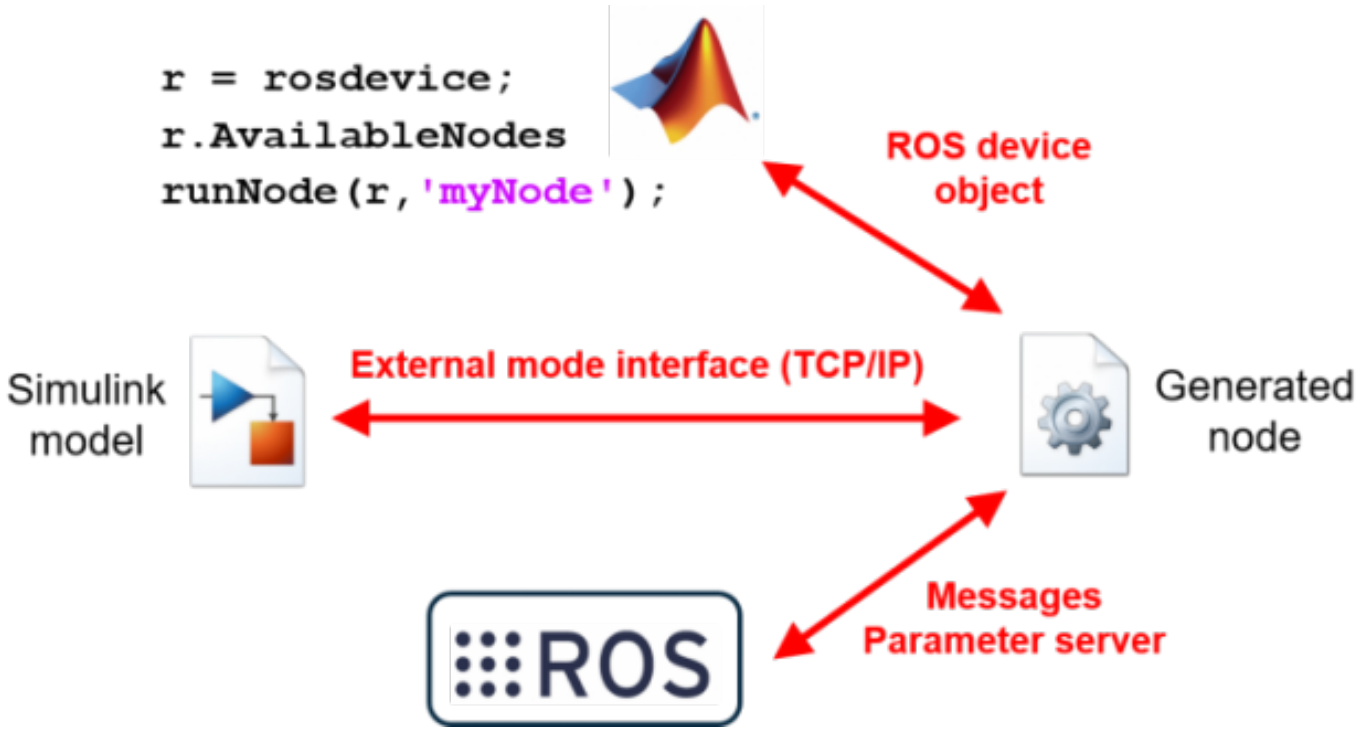


Figure: Access to ROS standalone node, courtsey of mathworks.com

Examples

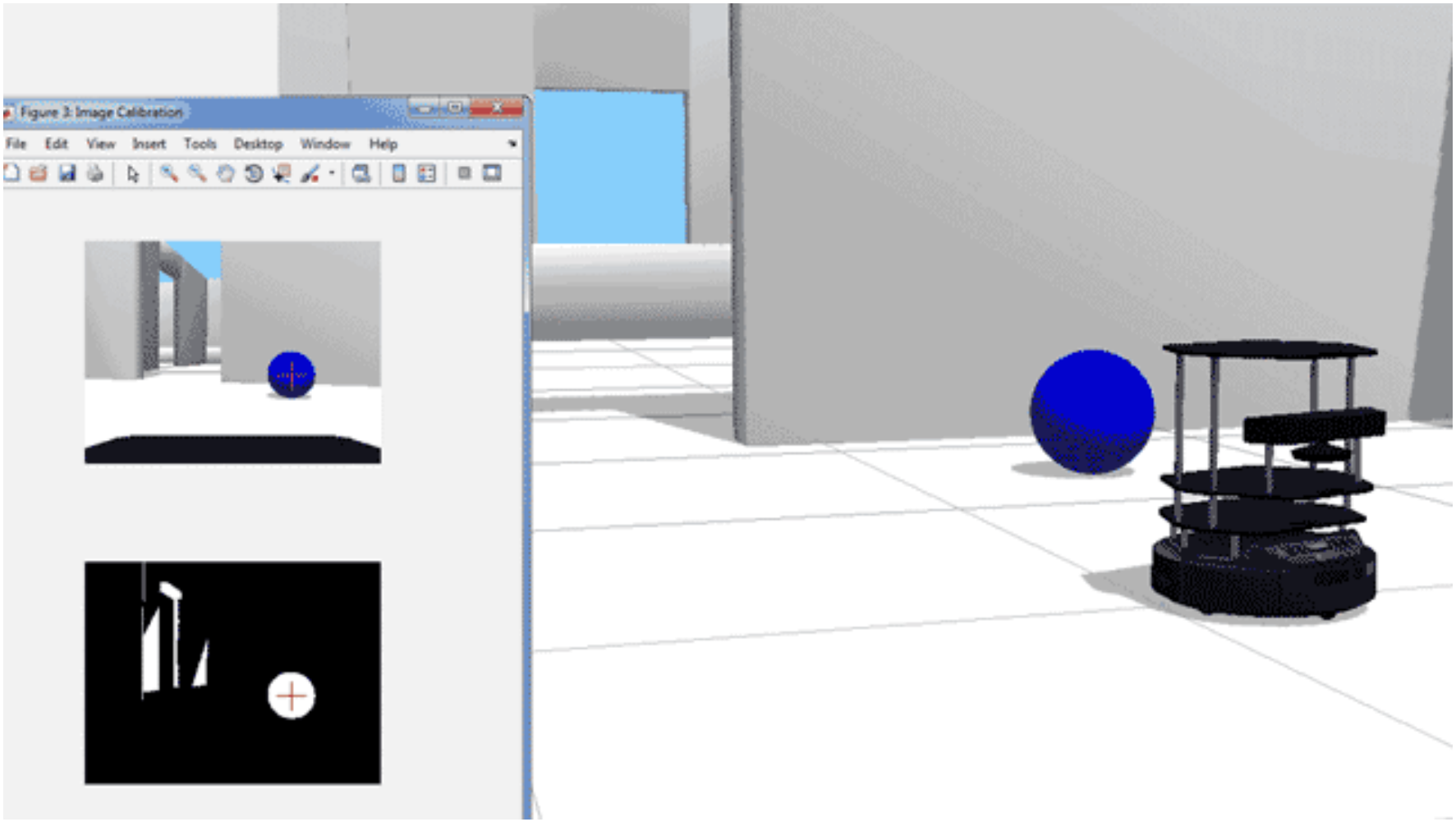


Figure: Turtle bot example, courtsey of mathworks.com

Area Coverage Optimization

Progress Report

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Outline

- Introduction to V-REP
- Interfacing Matlab and ROS on the same Machine
- Line following simulation
- Leader follower simulation
- Area Coverage simulation
- Future Work

V-REP

General purpose robot simulator with integrated development environment "coppeliarobotics.com".

Interfacing

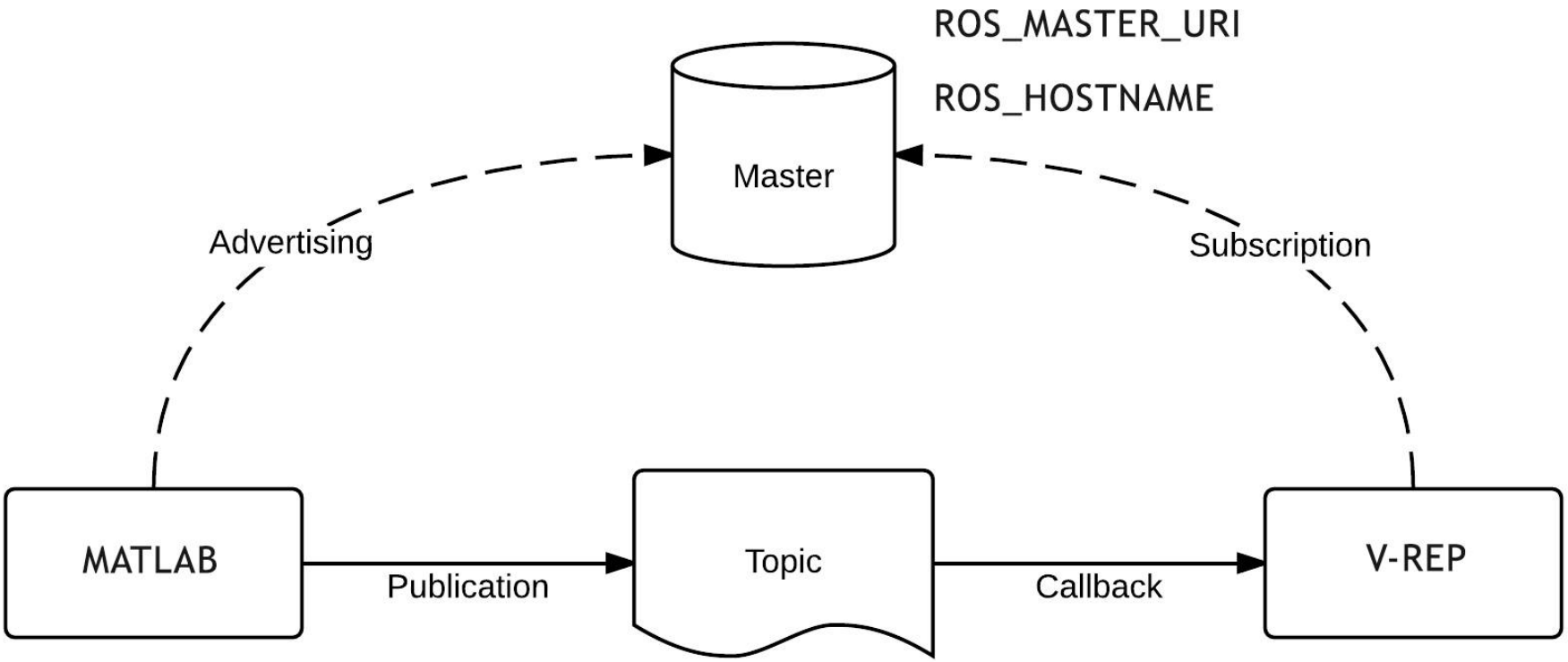

Figure: ROS, Matlab and V-REP interface

Line Following

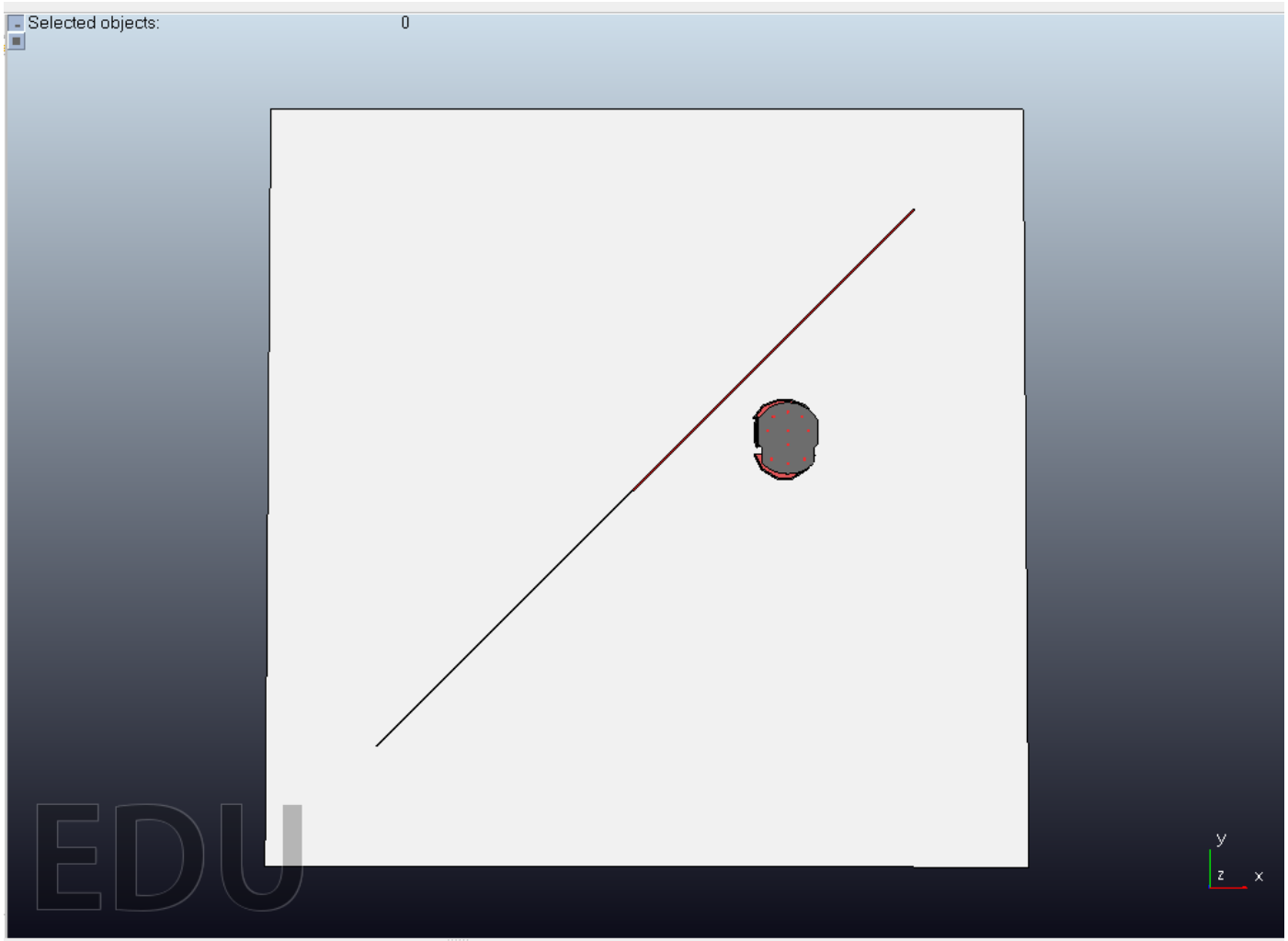

Figure: Line Following Scene

Leader Following

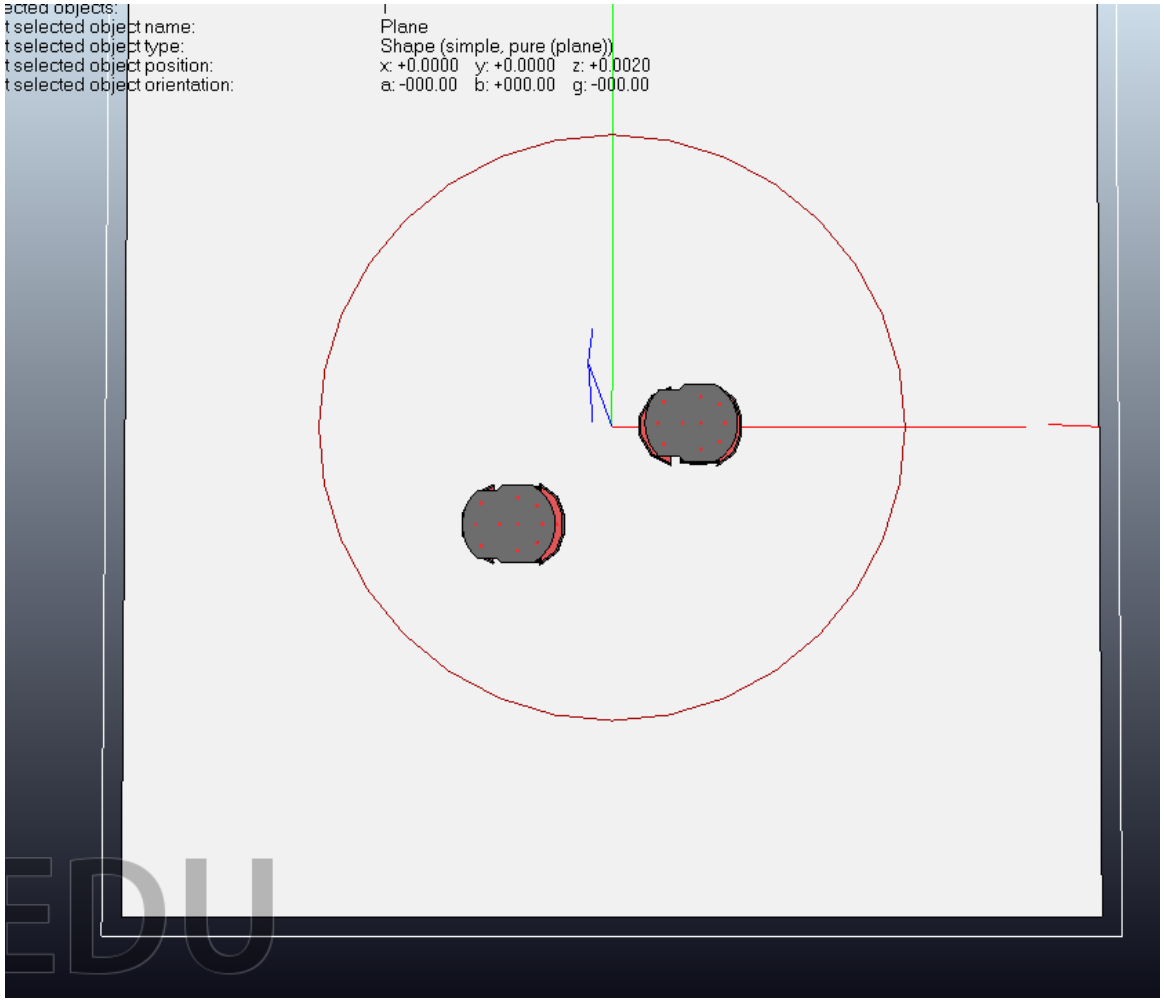

Figure: Leader Follower Scene

Area Coverage

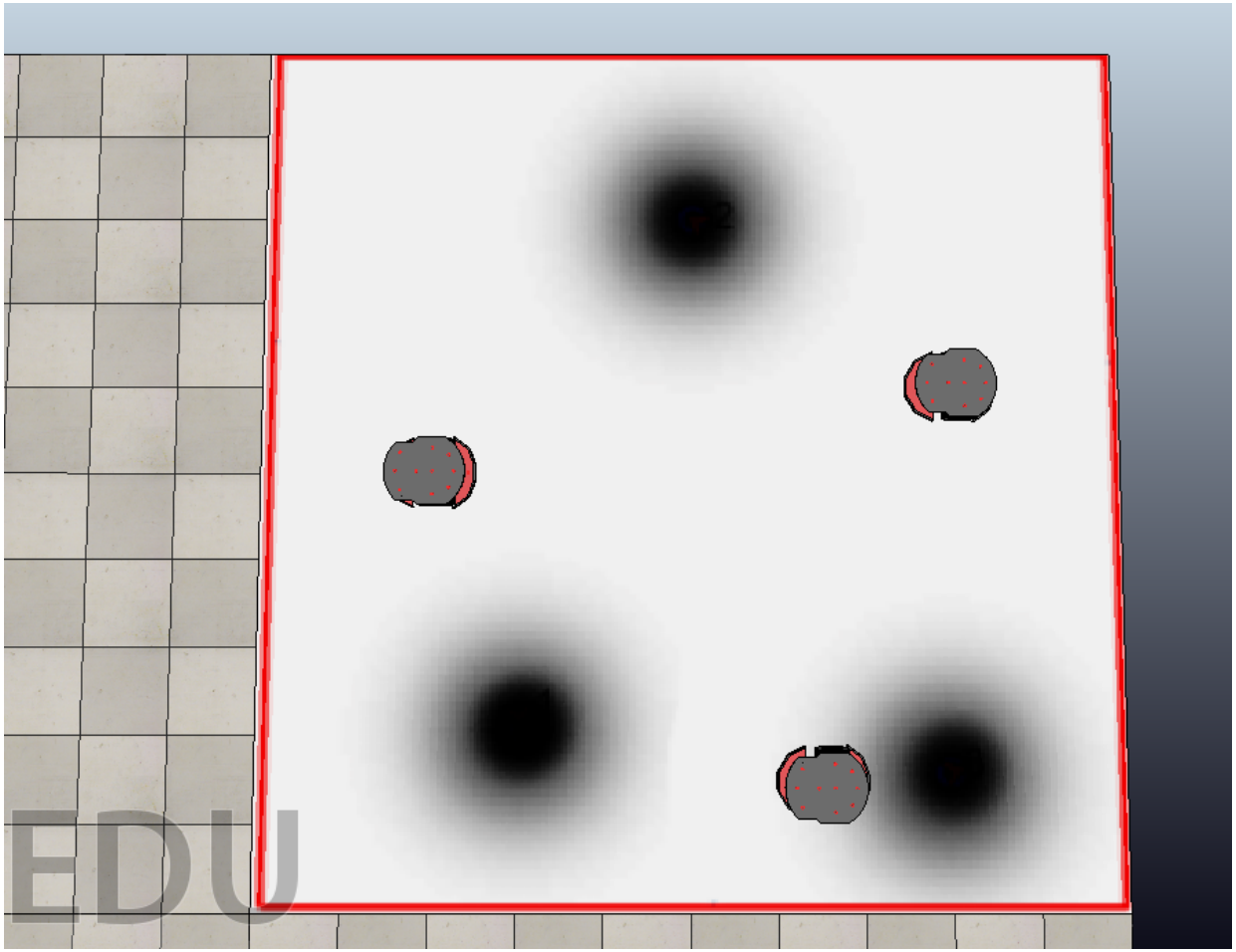

Figure: Area Coverage Scence

Future Work

- Expiremental Validation.
- Refining simulation results.

Questions?

Area Coverage Optimization

Progress Report

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Outline

- Objectives
- Refining Simulation

Objectives

- Refining Simulation
- Expiremental Validation

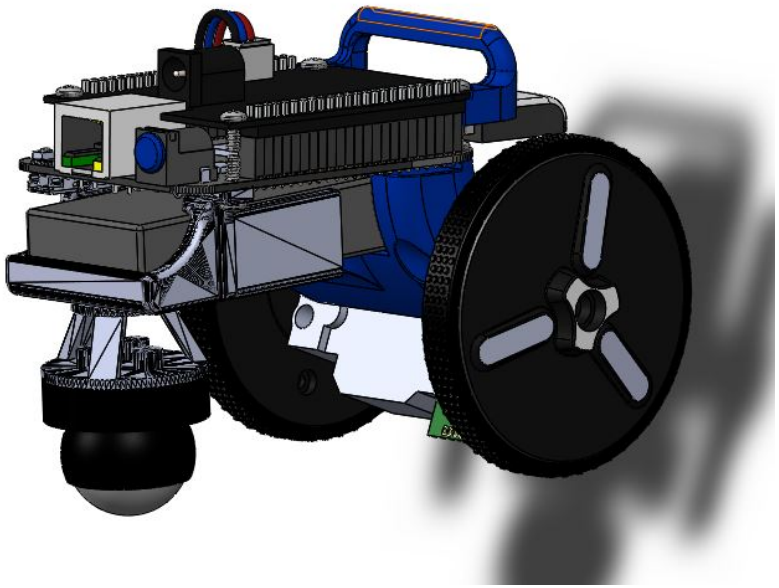

Figure: eduMOD Solidworks model

Refining Simulation

importing to V-rep

- Universal Robotic Description Format
- From Solidworks to URDF

Questions?

Area Coverage Optimization

Progress Report

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Outline

- V-rep simulation
- Implementation

Solidworks to URDF plugin

- Tested with simpler models but kept getting the same error

```
rospack find Assem1
rospack failed: Command 'rospack find Assem1' exited with
status 1.
```

- the error is related to rospack find
- testing the urdf file with gazebo and rviz along with windows version of vrep

Implementation

- successfully interfacing matlab robotics toolbox with the eduMOD robot through cable and wifi.
- implemented the line following and leader follower trials and waiting for the recent version of area coverage code to be implemented.
- looking deeply into results.

Questions?