# **Robotics Lab: Homework 4**

Control a mobile robot to follow a trajectory

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# Control a mobile robot to follow a trajectory

The goal of this homework is to implement an autonomous navigation software framework to control a mobile robot. The **rl\_fra2mo\_description** and **fra2mo\_2dnav** packages must be used as a starting point for the simulation. The student is requested to address the following points and provide a detailed report of the methods employed. In addition, a personal GitHub repo with all the developed code must be shared with the instructor. The report is due in one week from the homework release.

1 Construct a gazebo world and spawn the mobile robot in a given pose
1.a Launch the Gazebo simulation and spawn the mobile robot in the world
rl racefield in the pose

$$x = -3$$
  $y = 5$  yaw = -90 deg with respect to the map frame. The argument for the yaw in the call of spawn\_model is Y

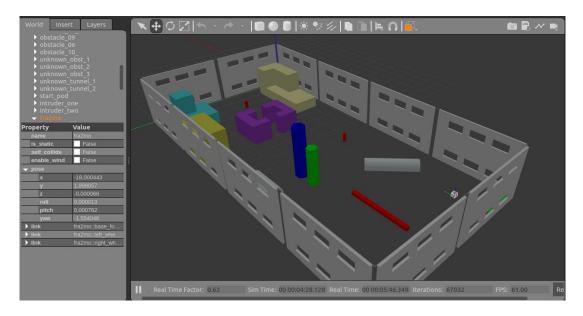
To set the spawn pose we modified the **spawn\_fra2mo\_gazebo** file. In that file we changed the x\_pos, y\_pos values and we also added a new parameter, **Y**, for changing the spawn orientation.

Then we passed also the new value adding - Y \$(arg\_yaw)

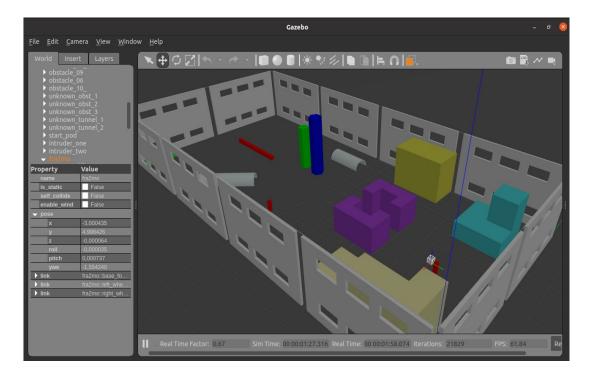
You can see the modified script in the figure below:

Then to launch the environment we launched the **spawn\_fra2mo\_gazebo.launch** file.

This is the start environment with the mobile robot in the old initial position.



Here we show the new environment with the mobile robot in the new position:



# 1.b Modify the world file of rl\_racefield moving the obstacle 9 in position: x = -17 y = 9 z = 0.1 yaw = 3.14

We moved the **obstacle\_9** in the required position changing the values related to its pose modifying the **rl\_race\_field.world** file.

1.c Place the ArUco marker number 115 on obstacle 9 in an appropriate position, such that it is visible by the mobile robot's camera when it comes in the proximity of the object.

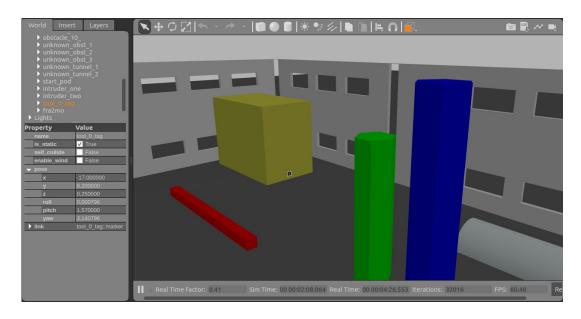
First of all we generated a new Aruco representing the number 115 with the online Aruco generator.

We put it inside a new folder for Aruco textures, named marker\_new. Then we copied the Aruco texture, naming it ar\_tag\_115, inside the right folder. In the scripts folder we also modified the marker\_new.material like in the figure above:

In order to spawn the marker on the **obstacal\_9** we changed its position in the **rl\_race\_field.world** file like shown in the figure above:

```
<!-- AR markers -->
<include>
  <name>tool_0_tag</name>
  <uri>model://marker_new</uri>
  <pose>-17 8.2 0.25 0 1.57 3.14</pose>
</include>
```

# How it appears:



- 2 Place static tf acting as goals and get their pose to enable an autonomous navigation task
  - 2.a Insert 4 static tf acting as goals in the following poses with respect to the map frame:

```
    Goal 1: x = -10 y = 3 yaw = 0 deg
    Goal 2: x = -15 y = 7 yaw = 30 deg
```

• Goal 3: x = -6 y = 8 yaw = 180 deg

• Goal 4: x = −17.5 y = 3 yaw = 75 deg

Follow the example provided in the launch file rl\_fra2mo\_description/launch/spawn\_fra2mo\_gazebo.launch of the simulation.

We added a publisher for each goal in the **spawn\_fra2mo\_gazebo.launch**.

Those are 4 **static\_transform\_publisher** nodes from the tf package to that publish the rigid transformation from a starting coordinate system **map** to a target coordinate system (**goal1**, **goal2**, **goal3**, **goal4**).

These transformations are combined representations of translations and rotations. The rotation is expressed in Quaternion.

```
<!--Static tf publisher for goals-->
<node pkg="tf" type="static_transform_publisher" name="goal_1_pub" args="-10 3 0 0 0 0 1 map goal1 100"/>
<node pkg="tf" type="static_transform_publisher" name="goal_2_pub" args="-15 7 0 0 0 0.25881904510252074 0.9659258262890683 map goal2 100"/>
<node pkg="tf" type="static_transform_publisher" name="goal_3_pub" args="-6 8 0 0 0 1 0 map goal3 100"/>
<node pkg="tf" type="static_transform_publisher" name="goal_4_pub" args="-17.5 3 0 0 0 0.6087614 0.7933533 map goal4 100"/>
```

2.b Following the example code in fra2mo\_2dnav/src/tf\_nav.cpp, implement tf listeners to get target poses and print them to the terminal as debug

In order to do that we implemented four **tf::StampedTransform** in the **tf\_nav.cpp**. One for each goal.

The function waitForTransform() waits for a transform to arrive and the lookupTransform() get the transform between the two frames passing it to the transform variable.

```
tf::TransformListener listener;
tf::StampedTransform transform1, transform2, transform3, transform4;
```

```
while ( ros::ok() )
{
    try
{
        listener.waitForTransform("map", "goall", ros::Time(0), ros::Duration(10.0));
        listener.lookupTransform("map", "goall", ros::Time(0), transform1);

        listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal2", ros::Time(0), ros::Duration(10.0));
        listener.lookupTransform("map", "goal2", ros::Time(0), transform2);

        listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3", ros::Time(0), ros::Duration(10.0));
        listener.lookupTransform("map", "goal4", ros::Time(0), transform3);

        listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal4", ros::Time(0), transform4);
```

Then we assign the listened values to the goal variables that we have defined:

```
TF_NAV::TF_NAV()
{
    _position_pub = _nh.advertise<geometry_msgs::PoseStamped>( "/fra2mo/pose", 1 );
    _cur_pos << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0;
    _cur_or << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0;
    _home_pos << -18.0, 2.0, 0.0;

//Point 2
    _goall_pos << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0;
    _goal2_pos << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0;
    _goal2_pos << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0;
    _goal2_or << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0;
    _goal3_pos << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0;
    _goal4_pos << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0;
    _goal4_pos << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0;
    _goal4_or << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0;
    _goal4_or << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0;
}</pre>
```

```
__goall_pos << transform1.getOrigin().x(), transform1.getOrigin().y(), transform1.getOrigin().z();
__goall_or << transform1.getRotation().w(), transform1.getRotation().x(), transform1.getRotation().y(), transform1.getRotation().z();
__goall_pos << transform2.getOrigin().x(), transform2.getOrigin().y(), transform2.getOrigin().z();
__goall_pos << transform2.getRotation().w(), transform3.getOrigin().y(), transform3.getOrigin().z();
__goall_pos << transform3.getOrigin().x(), transform3.getOrigin().y(), transform3.getOrigin().z();
__goall_pos << transform3.getRotation().w(), transform3.getRotation().x(), transform3.getRotation().x(), transform3.getRotation().z();
__goall_pos << transform4.getOrigin().x(), transform4.getOrigin().y(), transform4.getOrigin().z();
__goall_pos << transform4.getRotation().w(), transform4.getRotation().x(), transform4.getRotation().y(), transform4.getRotation().z();</pre>
```

This is the print of the all the pose of the target goals. We did it using the command rostopic echo /tf

```
ransforms:
   header:
     seq: 0
     stamp:
       secs: 69
       nsecs: 696000000
     frame_id: "map'
  child_frame_id: "goal1"
transform:
     translation:
       x: -10.0
       y: 3.0
       z: 0.0
     rotation:
       x: 0.0
       y: 0.0
       z: 0.0
       w: 1.0
```

```
ransforms:
  header:
    seq: 0
    stamp:
       secs: 69
      nsecs: 696000000
    frame_id: "map"
  child_frame_id: "goal2"
  transform:
    translation:
      x: -15.0
y: 7.0
      z: 0.0
     rotation:
      x: 0.0
      y: 0.0
      z: 0.2588190451025207
      w: 0.9659258262890683
```

```
transforms:
   header:
     seq: 0
     stamp:
       secs: 69
       nsecs: 696000000
     frame_id: "map"
   child_frame_id: "goal3"
   transform:
     translation:
       x: -6.0
       y: 8.0
       z: 0.0
     rotation:
       x: 0.0
       y: 0.0
       z: 1.0
          0.0
```

```
transforms:

header:
seq: 0
stamp:
secs: 69
nsecs: 676000000
frame_id: "map"
child_frame_id: "goal4"
transform:
translation:
x: -17.5
y: 3.0
z: 0.0
rotation:
x: 0.0
y: 0.0
z: 0.608761430209528
w: 0.7933533393698233
```

2.c Using move\_base, send goals to the mobile platform in a given order. Go to the next one once the robot has arrived at the current goal. The order of the explored goals must be Goal 3 → Goal 4 → Goal 2 → Goal 1. Use the Action Client communication protocol to get the feedback from move\_base. Record a bagfile of the executed robot trajectory and plot it as a result.

In order to do that we sent the goals by using the **send\_goal()** function implemented in the **MoveBaseClient**.

After sending the goal, it waits for the robot to get there thanks to the waitForResult() function.

```
cmd == 1)
MoveBaseClient ac("move base", true);
while(!ac.waitForServer(ros::Duration(5.0)))
    ROS INFO("Waiting for the move base action server to come up");
goal3.target_pose.header.stamp = ros::Time::now();
goal3.target_pose.pose.position.x = _goal3_pos[0];
goal3.target_pose.pose.position.y = _goal3_pos[1];
goal3.target_pose.pose.position.z = _goal3_pos[2];
goal3.target_pose.pose.orientation.w = _goal3_or[0];
goal3.target_pose.pose.orientation.x = _goal3_or[1];
goal3.target_pose.pose.orientation.y = _goal3_or[2];
goal3.target_pose.pose.orientation.z = _goal3_or[3];
ROS_INFO("Sending goal3");
std::cout<<"Goal 3 pose: x: "<<_goal3_pos[0]<<", y: "<<_goal3_pos[1]<<", z: "<<_goal3_pos[2]<<std::endl;
ac.sendGoal(goal3);
ac.waitForResult():
if(ac.getState() == actionlib::SimpleClientGoalState::SUCCEEDED)
ROS_INFO("The mobile robot arrived in the TF goal");
    ROS INFO("The base failed to move for some reason");
```

In order to plot the trajectory, we saved the pose of the robot in a bag file using this command:

```
davide@davide:~/catkin_ws$ rosbag record -0 /home/davide/Documents/BAG/totTraj.bag /fra2mo/pose
```

Then we had to plot it doing the **rostopic echo** of the **/fra2mo/pose**.

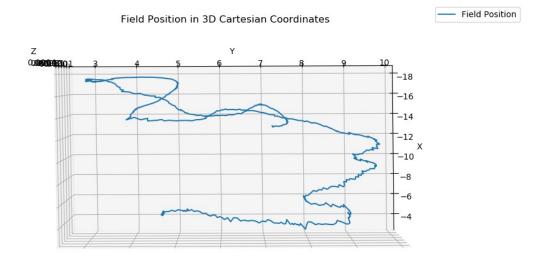
We just need the robot position to plot the trajectory, so we made a python script to take only the position values and then plot them in a 3D view.



The python script:

```
import rosbag
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from mpl toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D
bag file path = '/home/davide/Documents/BAG/totTraj.bag'
with rosbag.Bag(bag file path, 'r') as bag:
    positions x = []
    positions_y = []
    positions z = []
    for topic, msg, t in bag.read messages(topics=['/fra2mo/pose']):
        x = msg.pose.position.x
        y = msg.pose.position.y
       z = msg.pose.position.z
        positions x.append(x)
       positions_y.append(y)
       positions z.append(z)
fig = plt.figure()
ax = fig.add_subplot(111, projection='3d')
ax.plot(positions_x, positions_y, positions_z, label='Field Position')
ax.set xlabel('X')
ax.set_ylabel('Y')
ax.set zlabel('Z')
ax.set title('Field Position in 3D Cartesian Coordinates')
plt.legend()
plt.show()
```

# The represented trajectory:



- 3 Map the environment tuning the navigation stack's parameters:
  - 3.a Modify, add, remove, or change pose, the previous goals to get a complete map of the environment.

In order to do that we defined an entire new set of goals as shown:

In spawn\_fra2mo\_gazebo.launch:

• In **tf\_nav**: first of all we defined a transform for each goal and we passed to them the values listened.

```
listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_1", ros::Time(0), ros::Duration(10.0));
listener.lookupTransform("map", "goal3_2", ros::Time(0), transform3_1);

listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_2", ros::Time(0), ros::Duration(10.0));
listener.lookupTransform("map", "goal3_2", ros::Time(0), transform3_2);

listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_3", ros::Time(0), ros::Duration(10.0));
listener.lookupTransform("map", "goal3_3", ros::Time(0), transform3_3);

listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_4", ros::Time(0), ros::Duration(10.0));
listener.lookupTransform("map", "goal3_5", ros::Time(0), transform3_4);

listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_5", ros::Time(0), transform3_5);

listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_6", ros::Time(0), transform3_6);

listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_6", ros::Time(0), transform3_6);

listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_7", ros::Time(0), transform3_7);

listener.lookupTransform("map", "goal3_7", ros::Time(0), transform3_7);

listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_8", ros::Time(0), transform3_7);

listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal3_8", ros::Time(0), transform3_7);

listener.lookupTransform("map", "goal3_8", ros::Time(0), transform3_8);
```

• Then we assigned the goal values to the variables that we defined for each goal:

```
goal3_1_pos << transform3_1.getOrigin().x(), transform3_1.getOrigin().y(), transform3_1.getOrigin().z();
_goal3_1_or << transform3_1.getRotation().w(), transform3_1.getRotation().x(), transform3_1.getRotation().y(), transform3_2.getRotation().y();
_goal3_2_pos << transform3_2.getRotation().w(), transform3_2.getRotation().x(), transform3_2.getRotation().y(), transform3_2.getRotation().y(), transform3_2.getRotation().y(), transform3_2.getRotation().y(), transform3_2.getRotation().y(), transform3_2.getRotation().y(), transform3_3.getRotation().y(), transform3_3.getRotation().y(), transform3_3.getRotation().y(), transform3_3.getRotation().y(), transform3_3.getRotation().y(), transform3_3.getRotation().y(), transform3_3.getRotation().y(), transform3_3.getRotation().y(), transform3_4.getOrigin().z();
_goal3_4_pos << transform3_4.getRotation().w(), transform3_4.getRotation().x(), transform3_4.getRotation().y(), transform3_4.getRotation().y(), transform3_4.getRotation().y(), transform3_4.getRotation().y(), transform3_5.getRotation().y(), transform3_5.getRotation().y(), transform3_5.getRotation().y(), transform3_5.getRotation().y(), transform3_5.getRotation().y(), transform3_5.getRotation().y(), transform3_6.getRotation().y(), transform3_6.getRotation().y(), transform3_6.getRotation().y(), transform3_6.getRotation().y(), transform3_7.getRotation().y(), tra
```

• Then in the **send\_goal()** function we did this for each goal:

- 3.b Change the parameters of the planner and move\_base (try at least 4 different configurations) and comment on the results you get in terms of robot trajectories. The parameters that need to be changed are:
  - In file teb\_locl\_planner\_params.yaml: tune parameters related to the section about trajectory, robot and obstacles.

• In file local\_costmap\_params.yaml and global\_costmap\_params.yaml: change dimensions' values and update costmaps' frequency.

```
# config5
local_costmap:
global_frame: map
robot_base_frame: base_footprint
update_frequency: 5.0
publish_frequency: 10.0
static_map: false
rolling_window: true
width: 10.0
height: 10.0
resolution: 0.03
```

```
#config1 #global_costmap: #global_frame: map #global_frame: map #global_frame: map #global_frame: base_footprint #global_frame: base_frame: base_frame
```

```
#config5
global_costmap:
  global_frame: map
  robot_base_frame: base_footprint
  update_frequency: 5.0
  publish_frequency: 10.0
  #always_send_full_costmap: false #default is false
  rolling_window: false
  resolution: 0.05
  width: 10
  height: 10
  origin_x: -10
  origin_y: -10
```

 In file costmap\_common\_params.yaml: tune parameters related to the obstacle and raytrace ranges and footprint coherently as done in planner parameters.

#### After all these configurations we noticed that:

- By modifing **footprint** and **vertices** changes the trjectory planning.
- By modifing the **max\_vel\_x** and **max\_acc\_x** changes the linear velocity but usually it also has more difficulties doing curves.
- By modifing the max\_vel\_theta and max\_acc\_theta changes the angular velocity. If are both too high the robot has difficulties doing a linear movements.
- By changing **goal\_tolerance** the robot gets to a more or less precise pose.
- For higher values of the min\_obstacle\_dist the robot doesn't go through tight spaces.
- By changing the **frequencies** of **publish** and **update** we noticed that it happens that in the terminal appears a warning "Lost update frequency".
- For higher values of **max\_global\_plan\_lookahead\_dist** the trajectories are planned considering also the more distant obstacles .

### 4 Vision-based navigation of the mobile platform

4.a Run ArUco ROS node using the robot camera: bring up the camera model and uncomment it in that fra2mo.xacro file of the mobile robot description rl\_fra2mo\_description. Remember to install the camera description pkg: sudo aptget install ros-<DISTRO>-realsense2-description.

In the file d435\_gazebo\_macro we uncommented the lines about the D435 camera.

To see the camera view we launched the usb\_cam\_aruco.launch file.

We modified the .launch file usb\_cam\_aruco changing: markerID, camera, ref\_frame (in order to obtain the aruco pose with respect to the map frame) and also modified the default value related to camera\_frame.

4.b Implement a 2D navigation task following this logic

- Send the robot in the proximity of obstacle 9.
- Make the robot look for the ArUco marker. Once detected, retrieve its pose with respect to the map frame.
- Set the following pose (relative to the ArUco marker pose) as next goal for the robot

```
x = x_m + 1, y = y_m, where x_m, y_m are the marker coordinates.
```

In order to achieve these set of points, we created a new goal named **goal\_aruco** which bring the robot in the proximity of **obstacle\_9**. We added a **static\_tf publisher** as done previously with the following pose:

```
<node pkg="tf" type="static_transform_publisher" name="goal_aruco_pub" args="-15 8.5 0 0 0 1 0 map goal_aruco 100"/>
```

Moreover, in **tf\_nav.cpp** file, we added the following lines:

```
//Point 4
_goal_aruco_pos << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0;
_goal_aruco_or << 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0;
```

tf::StampedTransform transform aruco;

```
listener.waitForTransform("map", "goal_aruco", ros::Time(0), ros::Duration(10.0));
listener.lookupTransform("map", "goal_aruco", ros::Time(0), transform_aruco);
```

```
_goal_aruco_pos << transform_aruco.getOrigin().x(), transform_aruco.getOrigin().y(), transform_aruco.getOrigin().z();
_goal_aruco_or << transform_aruco.getRotation().w(), transform_aruco.getRotation().x(), transform_aruco.getRotation().y(), transform_aruco.getRotation().z();
```

```
//Goal Aruco
goal_aruco.target_pose.header.stamp = ros::Time::now();
goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.pose.position.x = _goal_aruco_pos[0];
goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.position.y = _goal_aruco_pos[1];
goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.position.z = _goal_aruco_pos[2];

goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.orientation.w = _goal_aruco_or[0];
goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.orientation.x = _goal_aruco_or[1];
goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.orientation.y = _goal_aruco_or[2];
goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.orientation.y = _goal_aruco_or[3];

//vedi se c'@ aruco e prendine la posizione
ros::Subscriber aruco_pose_sub = n.subscribe("/aruco_single/pose", 1, arucoPoseCallback);

ROS_INFO("Sending_goal_aruco");
std::cout<<"Goal_aruco_pose: x: "<<_goal_aruco_pos[0]<<", y: "<<_goal_aruco_pos[1]<<", z: "<<_goal_aruco_pos[2]<<<std::endl;
ac.sendGoal(goal_aruco);

ac.waitForResult();
bool_arrived = false;
if(ac.getState() == actionlib::SimpleClientGoalState::SUCCEEDED){
    arrived = true;
    ROS_INFO("The mobile robot arrived in the TF_goal");
}
else
ROS_INFO("The base failed to move for some reason");</pre>
```

The bool variable **arrived** will be useful in the next step.
In the **tf\_nav.cpp** file we added the **arucoPoseCallback()** function and the **aruco\_pose\_sub** subscriber, that we used in the last homework, in order to detect the aruco\_marker and retrieve its pose with respect to the map frame:

```
void arucoPoseCallback(const geometry_msgs::PoseStamped & msg)
{
    aruco_pose_available = true;
    aruco_pose.clear();
    aruco_pose.push_back(msg.pose.position.x);
    aruco_pose.push_back(msg.pose.position.y);
    aruco_pose.push_back(msg.pose.position.z);
    aruco_pose.push_back(msg.pose.orientation.x);
    aruco_pose.push_back(msg.pose.orientation.y);
    aruco_pose.push_back(msg.pose.orientation.z);
    aruco_pose.push_back(msg.pose.orientation.w);
    //ROS_INFO("aruco_Position: %f %f %f", aruco_pose[0], aruco_pose[1], aruco_pose[2]);
}
```

```
ros::Subscriber aruco_pose_sub = n.subscribe("/aruco_single/pose", 1, arucoPoseCallback);
```

We noticed that the aruco\_marker frame didn't correspond to the real position of the Aruco so we changed the dimension of the Aruco to fix this error.

Once the robot reaches the **obstacle\_9** and detects the **aruco\_marker** it retrieves its pose. Then it goes to a new goal with the following coordinates:  $x = x_m + 1$  and  $y = y_m$ .

In order to obtain these results we added these lines:

```
if(aruco_pose_available && arrived){
    goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.position.x = aruco_pose[0]+1;
    goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.position.y = aruco_pose[1];
    goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.position.z = aruco_pose[2];

    goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.orientation.w = _goal_aruco_or[0];
    goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.orientation.x = _goal_aruco_or[1];
    goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.orientation.y = _goal_aruco_or[2];
    goal_aruco.target_pose.pose.orientation.z = _goal_aruco_or[3];

    ROS_INFO("Positioning 1 meter from Aruco");
    ac.sendGoal(goal_aruco);

ac.waitForResult();

if(ac.getState() == actionlib::SimpleClientGoalState::SUCCEEDED){
    ROS_INFO("The mobile robot is in front of the Aruco");
}
```

## 4.c Publish the ArUco pose as TF following the example at this link.

To publish the ArUco pose as TF we defined a new **tf::Transform**. We defined a static object **tf::TransformBroadcaster** to send the Aruco transform. This class publishes the coordinate frame transform information. It handles the messaging and stuffing of messages.

#include <tf/transform\_broadcaster.h>

```
tf::Transform transform;
transform.setOrigin(tf::Vector3(aruco_pose[0],aruco_pose[1],aruco_pose[2]));
tf::Quaternion q(aruco_pose[3],aruco_pose[4],aruco_pose[5],aruco_pose[6]);
transform.setRotation(q);

// Pubblica la trasformazione TF
static tf::TransformBroadcaster br;
br.sendTransform(tf::StampedTransform(transform, ros::Time::now(), "map", "aruco_marker_frame"));
```

To check if it works, we used the command rosrun tf tf\_echo /map /aruco\_marker\_frame

```
At time 55.704
- Translation: [-17.020, 8.209, 0.268]
- Rotation: in Quaternion [0.512, 0.498, 0.490, 0.501]
in RPY (radian) [1.589, -0.003, 1.546]
in RPY (degree) [91.063, -0.182, 88.603]
```

You can find all the files at the following GitHub url: <a href="https://github.com/FalcoPietro/Homework4">https://github.com/FalcoPietro/Homework4</a>

Group members: Davide Busco Pietro Falco Davide Rubinacci Giuseppe Saggese