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**Federal University of Minas Gerais - UFMG**

ProVANT Simulator User Guide

Author: Arthur Viana Lara  
Translated by: Daniel Leite Ribeiro  
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# Abstract

The purpose of this guide is to describe the required procedures for using ProVANT Simulator. Its covers from the installation process to performing tests on control strategies via simulation. The text is organized as follows:

1. The first section presents the context in which this simulation environment is inserted, and also a brief introduction on unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs);
2. The second section presents the steps required for the installation of ProVANT's simulation environment;
3. The third section describes the simulation environment's workflow, detailing each feature of the GUI, such as choosing scenario, model, control strategy and airship.
4. The fourth chapter is the most important for the user. It describes the procedures for implementing new control strategies in the simulation environment;
5. Appendix A explains the file structure behind the UAV models used. In this section is presented the main information about kinematic modelling and about importing files from CAD software into the platform Gazebo;
6. Appendix B describes the plugins used in the simulation environment;
7. Appendices C and D describe the files `CMakeLists.txt` and `package.xml`, respectively.



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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Unmanned aerial vehicles are airships equipped with embedded systems, sensors and actuators that allow the performance of autonomous or remote controlled flights. They are commonly classified in two groups: rotary-wing vehicles, such as helicopters and quadcopters, and fixed-wing vehicles, such as airplanes.

There is a wide range of applications for UAVs, such as:

- Crop dusting;
- Herd conduction;
- Road monitoring;
- Power lines inspection;
- Supply deliver in difficult access locations.

The simulator presented in this guide is associated to ProVANT<sup>1</sup>. ProVANT consists of a partnership between Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC) and Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), aiming towards research and development of new technologies to improve the performance of UAVs. In this context, ProVANT currently focuses in the development of tilt-rotor UAVs. The tilt-rotor is an airship with hybrid configuration, featuring the main advantages of both fixed-wing and rotary-wing airships, such as lower power consumption during cruise flights and vertical take-off and landing (VTOL). It can operate both indoors and outdoors.

Currently, ProVANT has three design branches:

1. Mechanics/Aerodynamics;
2. Instrumentation/Electronics;
3. Control strategy design and state estimation.

The Mechanic/Aerodynamic design already has five UAV versions, which were named ProVANT UAV 1.0, 2.0, 2.1, 3.0 and 4.0, shown in Figures 1.1, A.2, 1.3, A.10 and A.14, respectively. Instrumentation/Electronics is in an advanced stage, having all its circuits already developed, and improvements are being made on them. As for the Control strategy design and state estimation, several control strategy were developed in the context of this project by master's and doctorate students.

Furthermore, some scientific works were developed. In [Donadel \(2015\)](#), controllers based on the Linear Quadratic Regulator (LQR), linear  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  and linear mixed  $\mathcal{H}_2/\mathcal{H}_\infty$  techniques were developed for ProVANT UAV 1.0, aiming towards path tracking. Some of these controllers were validated by experimental flights. In [de Almeida Neto \(2014\)](#), a non-linear control technique based in feedback linearization is presented, dedicated to load transportation in ProVANT UAV 2.0. With the same objective, [Alfaro \(2016\)](#) presents the development of a controller based in the Model Predictive Control (MPC) technique. In [Rego \(2016\)](#), load transportation in ProVANT UAV 2.0 was addressed, although the path tracking problem was approached from the load's point of view, to which robust state estimators were developed. In [Cardoso \(2016\)](#), an adaptative control strategy was developed aiming towards path tracking for ProVANT UAV 3.0.

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<sup>1</sup>[provant.paginas.ufsc.br](http://provant.paginas.ufsc.br)

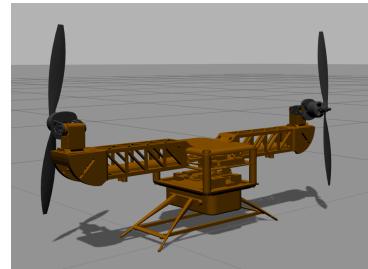
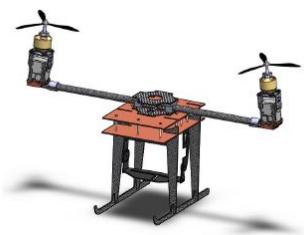


Figure 1.1: ProVANT UAV 1.0's mechanical design. Figure 1.2: ProVANT UAV 2.0's mechanical design..

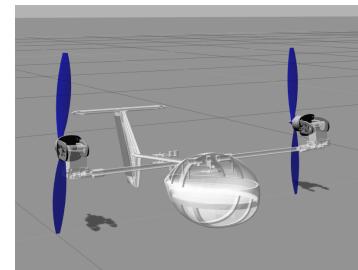
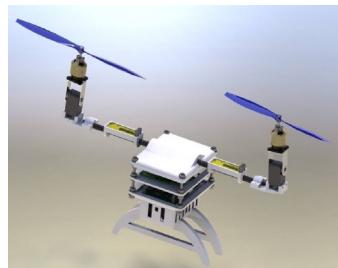


Figure 1.3: ProVANT UAV 2.1's mechanical design.. Figure 1.4: ProVANT UAV 3.0's mechanical design.

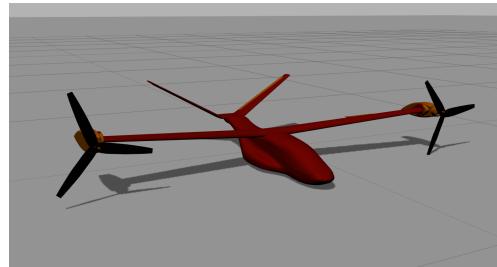


Figure 1.5: ProVANT UAV 4.0's mechanical design.

ProVANT Simulator was made to be a reliable and easy to use tool, allowing for the reduction of costs and time required for the design and validation of control strategies.

# Chapter 2

## Installation

ProVANT Simulator is a simulation environment developed in order to validate and evaluate the performance of control strategies. The simulator version addressed in this guide was developed on top of Gazebo 7, a simulation platform, and ROS (Robot Operating System), a framework for developing robot applications, under the Kinetic distribution. In order to use it, a computer running the **operating system Ubuntu 16.04** is needed.

ROS offers a programming interface for robotics applications and features repositories with several software modules, and Gazebo is a 3D simulation software under free license, maintained and developed under responsibility of the Open Source Robotics Foundation (OSRF). It's able to simulate the dynamic behavior of rigid, articulated bodies, and includes features such as collision detection and graphical visualization.

This chapter presents the steps required for installation of ProVANT Simulator. It first presents the installation procedures for the platforms used by the simulator, such as Qt5, Git and ROS, and then those for the ProVANT simulation environment.

### 2.1 Installation procedures

In the steps described here it is assumed that the computer in which the simulator is being installed runs a clean, recently installed copy of Ubuntu 16.04.

#### 2.1.1 Installing Git

The source code for ProVANT simulator is hosted on GitHub. In order to access the source code files for ProVANT hosted on this GitHub repository, Git must be installed in the user's computer. In case it's not, open a new terminal and run the following commands:

```
sudo apt update  
sudo apt install git
```

#### 2.1.2 Installing and configuring ROS

ROS offers a programming interface for robotics applications and several software modules, among which is the simulator Gazebo, version 7, used by ProVANT Simulator. This subsection details the instructions needed for installing the ROS Kinetic Kame distribution<sup>1</sup>.

##### Configure the Ubuntu repositories

---

<sup>1</sup>More details and help can be found on [ROS's homepage](#)

Before starting installation, the Ubuntu repositories must be configured to allow *restricted*, *universe* and *multiverse*. Note: Usually, these options are already set upon installation of Ubuntu 16.04. In case they're not, follow the [Ubuntu guide](#) for instructions on doing this.

### Setup sources.list

The computer must also be set up to accept software from packages.ros.org. To do that, open a new terminal and run the following command:

```
sudo sh -c 'echo "deb http://packages.ros.org/ros/ubuntu $(lsb_release -sc) main" >/etc/apt/sources.list.d/ros-latest.list'
```

### Setup access keys for ROS repositories

Run the following command:

```
sudo apt-key adv --keyserver hkp://ha.pool.sks-keyserver.net:80 --recv-key 421C365BD9FF1F717815A3895523BAEEB01FA116
```

### Installation

First, make sure the Debian package index is up-to-date:

```
sudo apt update
```

After updating the packages, download the binary files:

```
sudo apt install ros-kinetic-desktop-full
```

### Initialize rosdep

Before using ROS, rosdep must be initialized. This system installs the system dependencies for the source code to be compiled. It is required in order to run some core components in ROS.

```
sudo rosdep init
rosdep update
```

### Environment setup

To have the ROS environment variables automatically added to the bash session every time a new shell is launched:

```
echo "source /opt/ros/kinetic/setup.bash" >> $HOME/.bashrc
source $HOME/.bashrc
```

### Create a ROS workspace

Finally, a ROS workspace must be created. To do that, run the following command sequence:

```
mkdir -p $HOME/catkin_ws/src
cd $HOME/catkin_ws/
catkin_make
source $HOME/catkin_ws/devel/setup.bash
echo "source $HOME/catkin_ws/devel/setup.bash" >> $HOME/.bashrc
```

### 2.1.3 Installing Qt Framework

In order to appropriately install ProVANT Simulator's graphical setup environment, QtCreator 5 IDE must be installed. To do that, run the following commands:

```
cd $HOME/Downloads
wget http://download.qt.io/official_releases/online_installers/qt-unified-linux-x64-online.run
sudo chmod +x qt-unified-linux-x64-online.run
./qt-unified-linux-x64-online.run
```

### 2.1.4 Dowloading and installing the simulation environment

The source code for ProVANT Simulator is located in [this GitHub repository](#). Since it's currently private, access must be requested from Professor Guilherme Vianna Raffo<sup>2</sup>.

Once it's been granted, the current version of the simulation environment can be downloaded by cloning the repository into the user's computer:

```
cd $HOME/catkin_ws/src
git clone https://github.com/Guiraffo/ProVANT-Simulator.git
```

Once cloned, the simulation environment can be installed and configured by running the following commands:

```
cd $HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator
sudo chmod +x install.sh
./install.sh
```

Provided that all the procedures described above were executed successfully, the user will be ready to proceed to the next chapter, regarding ProVANT Simulator's workflow.

---

<sup>2</sup>raffo@ufmg.br



# Chapter 3

## Workflow

This chapter presents the features available for ProVANT Simulator's operation through the graphical interface, such as:

- Scenario selection
- UAV model selection
- Scenario configuration
- UAV settings
- Simulation startup

### 3.1 How to start the simulation environment

Once the installation process has been gone through successfully as described in the previous chapter, the development of controllers in the simulation environment can begin. To start the GUI, open a new terminal and type the following command:

```
provant_gui
```

The graphical interface to access the simulator will then be started, and the main window will show up, as depicted in Figure 3.1.

### 3.2 Scenario selection

Once the simulator's GUI has been started, the user must select a simulation scenario. That can be done in two different ways, through the option *Simulation*, present in the GUI's top menu, as shown in figure 3.2:

- (i) By clicking *New*, a template scenario with extension `.tpl` can be opened.

A template scenario is a scenario configuration that serves as template for the creation of other scenarios. It cannot be edited, needs the inclusion of a UAV model and must be saved before the simulation with format `.world`.

- (ii) By clicking *Open*, an existing scenario (with extension `.world`) can be opened.

Menu *Simulation* also allows to save a scenario with another name under the `.world` extension, by clicking *Save*, and to end the simulation environment, by clicking *Exit*.

### 3.3 UAV selection

Through option *Edit* in the top menu, the UAV model to be used in the simulation can be selected. Note: in this version of the simulation environment, only a single UAV can be included in a given simulation instance.

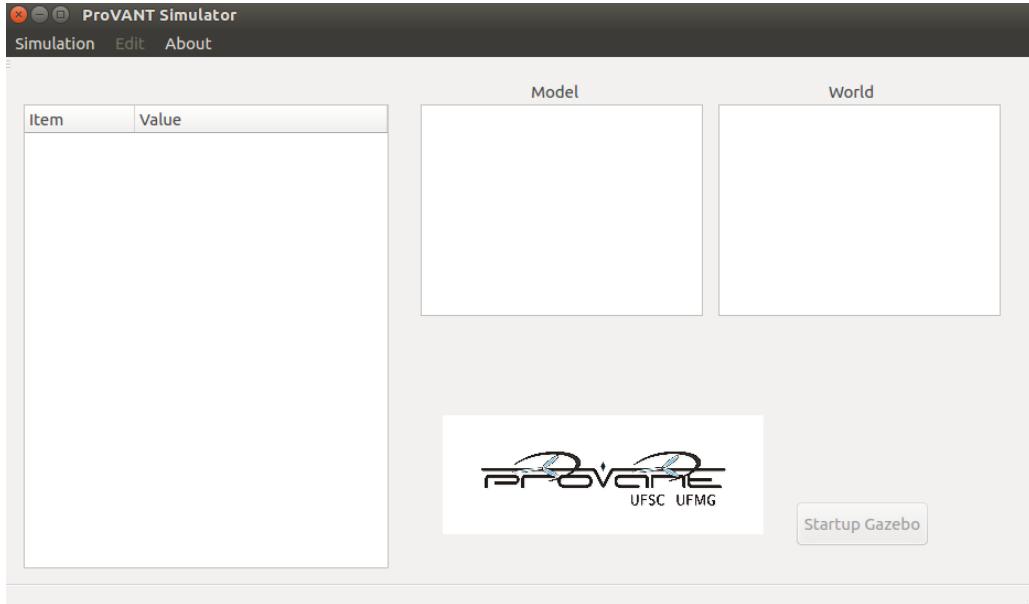


Figure 3.1: Main window

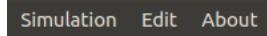


Figure 3.2: Top menu

### 3.4 Simulation settings window

After choosing the UAV and the simulation scenario, an illustrative image of the scenario will appear in the GUI. Thus, it is possible to verify if it was selected correctly, as shown in Figure 3.3, through item 3.

In this same window, item 1 consists of a tree with information and settings for the UAV and the simulation scenario. Settings can be edited by double-clicking the desired field. The main fields of this tree are:

- Gravity: gravity acceleration vector with respect to the world frame, in m/s<sup>2</sup>;
- Physics: physics engine used to perform the simulation. The available options are:
  - ode
  - bullet
  - dart
  - simbody
- name: Name of the UAV model in simulator Gazebo
- pose: Initial position and orientation (roll, pitch, yaw) of the UAV, in meters and radians, respectively.

By double-clicking the *uri* field, a new window will open. In this window it is possible to view and configure the model, controller, actuators and sensors. More details on this window will be presented in the next section. Item 4 allows the initialization of the simulation with the settings, model and scenario selected by the user in the GUI.

### 3.5 Model, control strategy and instrumentation visualization and settings window

Figure 3.5 shows tab *Controller*. In this tab, it is possible to create a new control strategy, using item 2, select an existent one, through item 3, or compile it, item 4. The control strategy selected for use in the simulation is shown on item 1. More details on these items are described below.

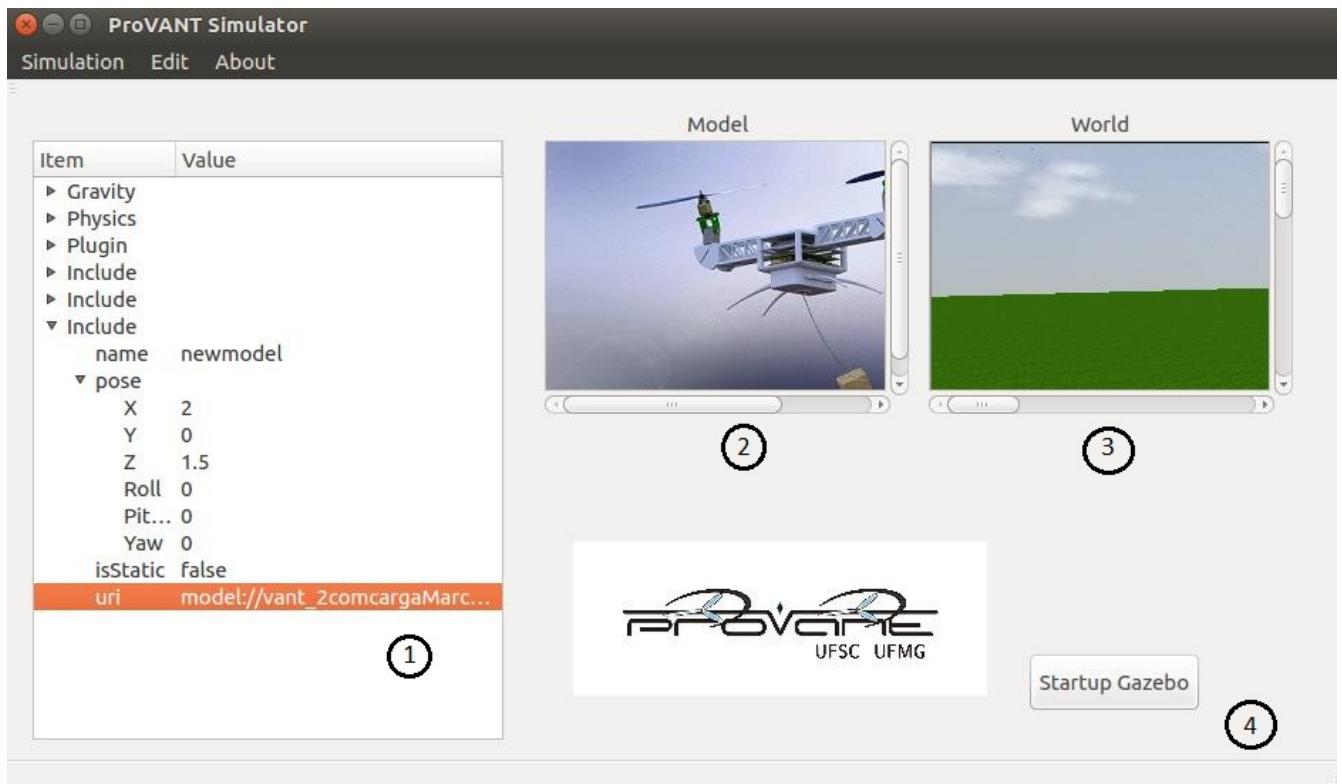


Figure 3.3: Simulation settings window

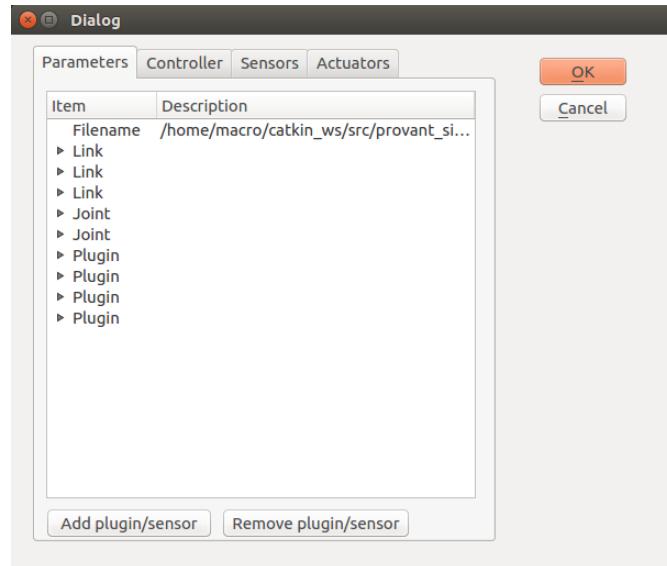


Figure 3.4: UAV model parameters visualization tab.

### Creating a new control strategy

To create a new control strategy, the button *New controller* (item 2) must be clicked, and a new window will be shown (Figure 3.6). In this window, the user must insert the new control strategy's name (more details on the creation of a new control strategy are presented in Section 4).

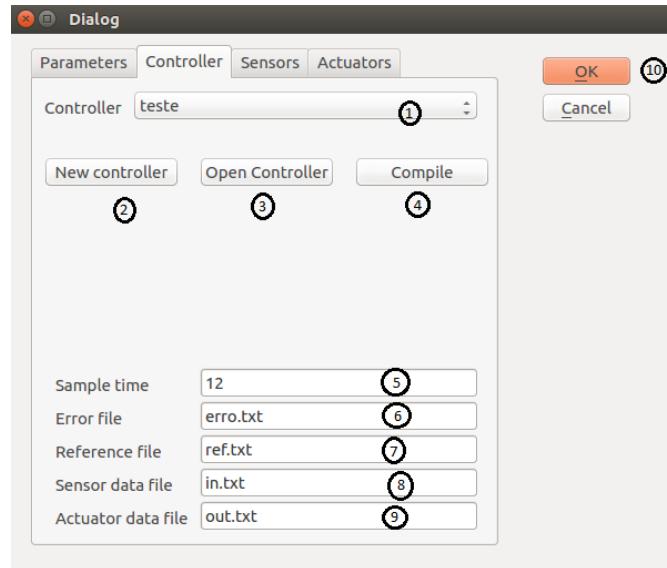


Figure 3.5: Control strategy selection and configuration window.



Figure 3.6: Creating a new control strategy.

### Modifying an existing control strategy

To modify an existing control strategy, the user must select its name among several ones listed in the listing box (item 1) and click the button *Open controller* (item 3). After choosing the strategy, the file manager Nautilus will be opened in the directory containing all the files and directories associated with the controller, as shown in Figure 3.7.

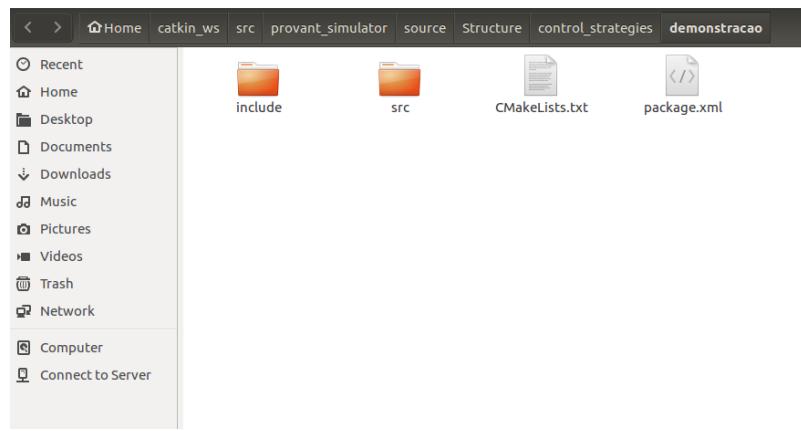


Figure 3.7: Directory containing all the files and folders associated to the control strategy to be modified.

### Compiling the controller

To compile the code associated to the selected control strategy, the user must click the button *Compile* (item 4). **This step must be executed whenever new modifications to the control strategy are made.** In

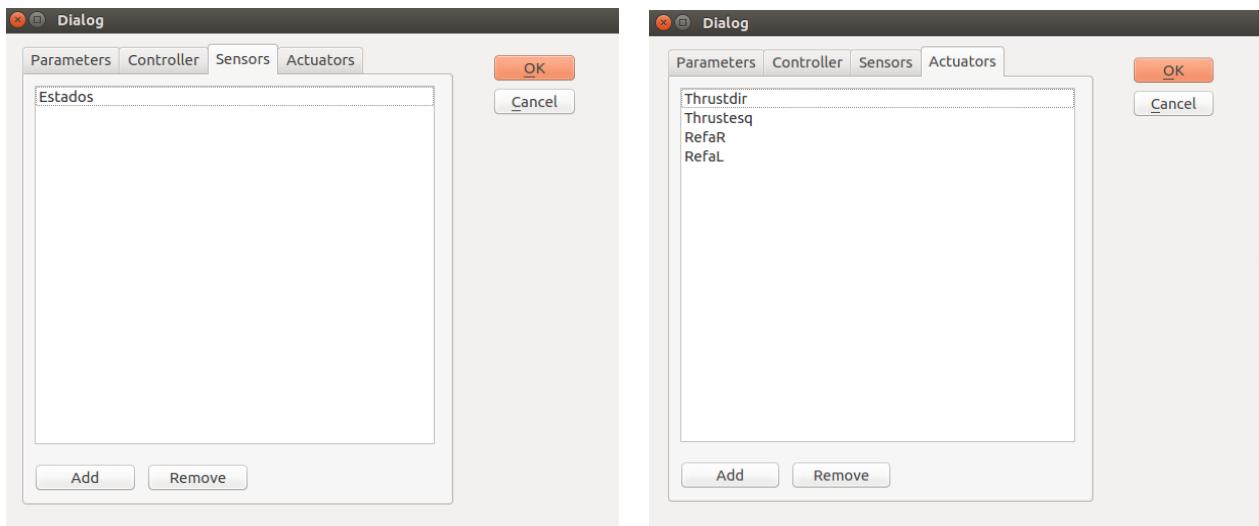


Figure 3.8: Tabs for selecting the available instrumentation during simulation.

case there are errors during compilation, the compiler's output log will be shown in a text file on the text viewer gedit.

### Altering additional settings

Tab *Controller* also allows to setup other parameters related to the simulation. In field *Sample time* (item 5), the sampling time in miliseconds can be configured. The remaining fields *Error file* (item 6), *Reference data file* (item 7), *Sensor file* (item 8) and *Actuator data file* (item 9) determine the names of the text files where the values of the tracking error, desired path, sensor data and control signal will be logged, stored. These files can be loaded directly to MATLAB. They will available in the directory

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/srcProVANT-Simulator/source/Structure/Matlab
```

#### 3.5.1 Selecting available instrumentation

Tabs *Sensors* and *Actuators* depicted in Figure 3.8 list, respectively, the names of the sensors and actuators topics to which the controller will have access during simulation **in the presented order**. Those topics are configured during plugin configuration, and will be described in section A.1.2.

#### 3.5.2 Starting the simulation

After setting everything up, the user must press the button *OK* (item 10). The simulation settings window (Figure 3.3) will be shown again. The simulation can then be initialized with the selected UAV model, scenario, control strategy and instrumentation, by pressing the button *Startup Gazebo* (item 4) of Figure 3.3. The simulator Gazebo will be started, as shown in Figure 3.9.

To start the simulation, the user must press the button *Step*. **Button *Play* must not be used.**

### 3.6 Examples

#### 3.6.1 UAV 4.0

In order to execute the uav 4.0 simulation first the user should select in the user interface menu the option "Open" and then select the world file "vant4.world". Then, the user should in the same menu select the option "Edit" and then select the option that contains the model of the UAV 4.0. The UAV pose shall appear in the

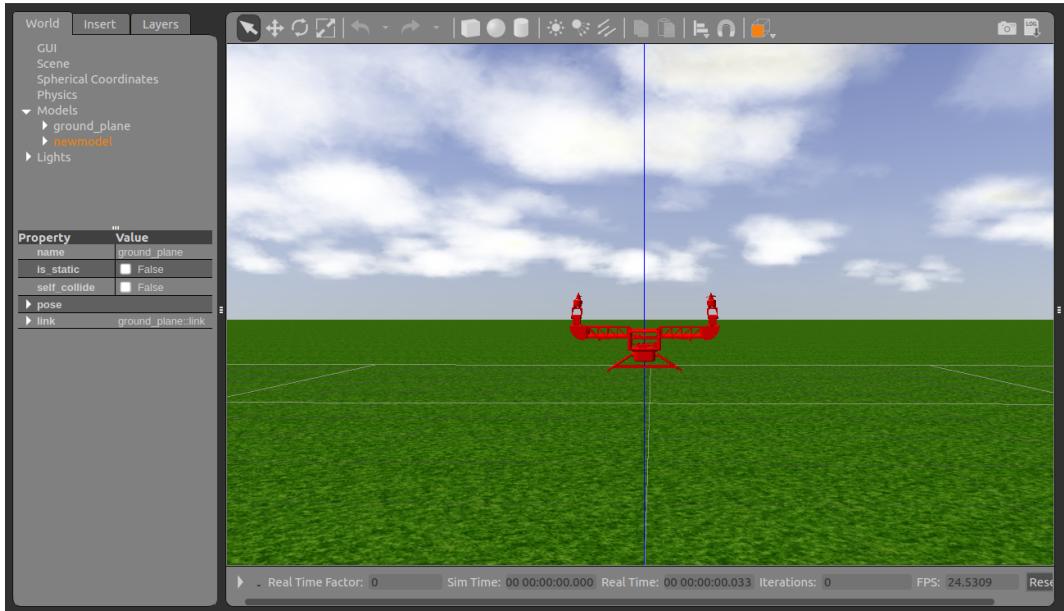


Figure 3.9: Gazebo's home window

configuration window with the same pose as defined in the "vant4.world" file. In the case of the UAV 4.0 this pose is Position(0, 4, 0) and Orientation(0, 0, 0).

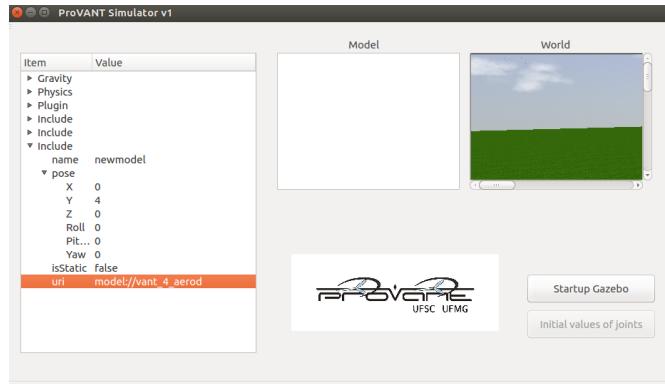


Figure 3.10: Graphic Interface Window for UAV 4.0.

By clicking twice the uri field, a configuration window for the model, controller, actuators and sensors will appear. In the tab "Controller" the control strategy "vant4Winf" should be selected and then compiled selecting the "Compile" button.

The simulation will then be configured and the user can select the option "Startup Gazebo" in the main window of the user interface to launch it. Finally, the user should select the Gazebo option "step" to effectively start the simulation.

Using the "DataSaveTiltRotor" plugin, explained in the section A.1.2, it's possible for the user to save the data of the forces applied by the thruster during the simulation, as well as the values of the deflexion of the rotors, ailerons and rudders. These values are saved in text files in the directory:

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Structure/Matlab
```

The values of the state error, desired trajectory, data from the sensors, and control signals can be found in text files in the Matlab directory.

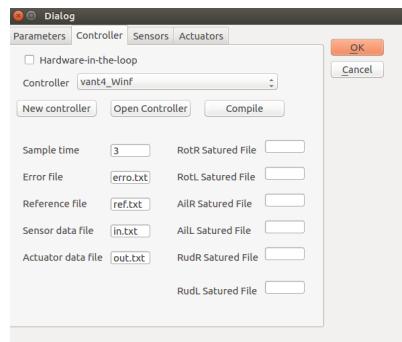


Figure 3.11: Configuration Screen for UAV 4.0 Control Strategy.

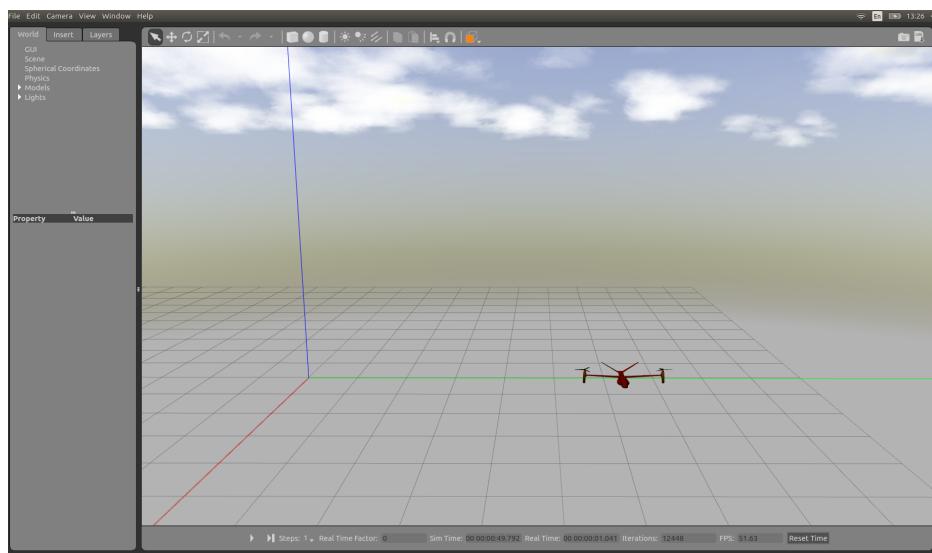


Figure 3.12: UAV 4.0 Simulation.

### 3.6.2 UAV 4.0 with Scenario

The user can simulate the UAV 4.0 with the scenario available. First the user should select in the top menu of the graphical interface the option "Open" and choose the existing scenario "hill.world".

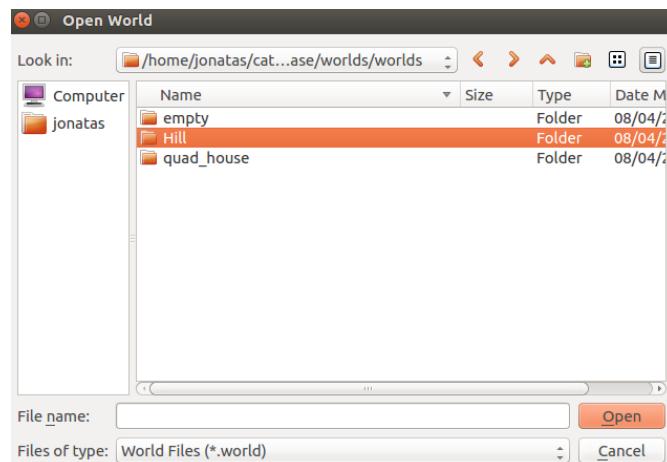


Figure 3.13: UAV 4.0 Simulation.

It's not necessary to select the UAV 4.0 model in the "Edit" option of the graphical interface top menu. The next step is to double-click the uri field in the main window of the graphical interface and in the top tab "Controller" select the control strategy "vant4Winf" and compile it using the "Compile" button.

In the main window of the graphical interface the pose must be Position(0,0,0) e Orientation(0,0,0) as shown:

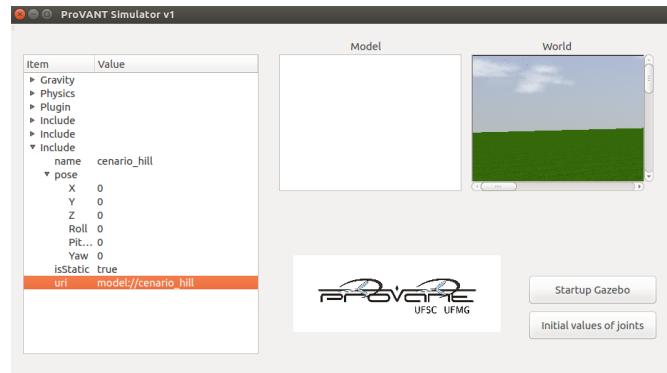


Figure 3.14: Main Window of the User Interface for UAV 4.0 with Scenario.

The simulation with the scenario is configured and the user should select the "Startup Gazebo" option in the main window of the user interface to launch it. The user can then select the Gazebo option "Step" to initialize the simulation.

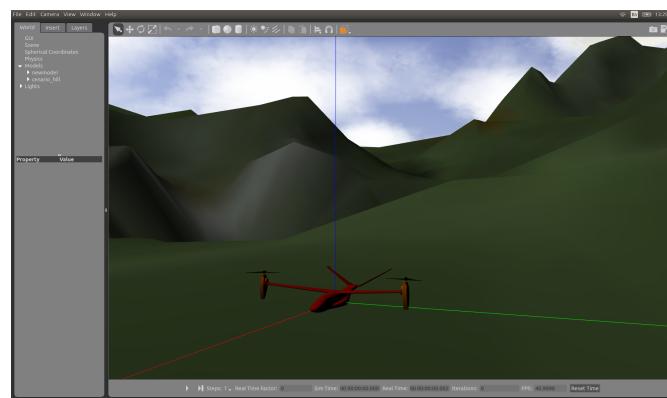


Figure 3.15: UAV 4.0 with Scenario Simulation.

### 3.6.3 Visualizing UAV 4.0 Trajectory in Rviz

In order to visualize the UAV trajectory in Rviz the user first must follow the steps in the examples **VANT 4.0** or **VANT 4.0 com Cenário**. Then in a shell terminal the user can initialize Rviz to configure it.

```
$ rosrun rviz rviz
```

The following screen must appear in Rviz

The option "*fixed frame*" should be configured to "*inertial frame*". Next, select the *display* "Path" available after selecting the "Add" button on the bottom Rviz menu.

To configure the "Path" *display* three parameters should be configured: "topic", "Buffer Length" and "Pose Style". In "topic" the user should select the ros topic, */Path*, responsible to show the *UAV real trajectory*. Higher values of "Buffer Length" allow the trajectory to stay visible for a long period of time, an empirical value of 12000 proved to be enough for the simulation. For smaller values of "Buffer Length" the trajectory will be

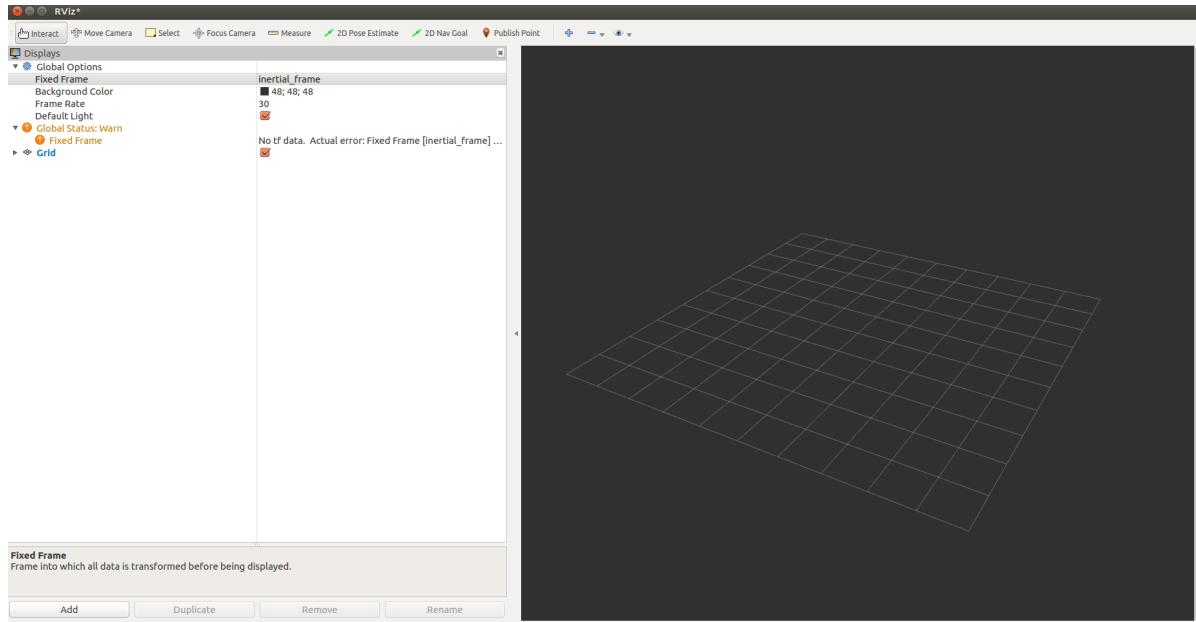


Figure 3.16: Rviz Main Window.

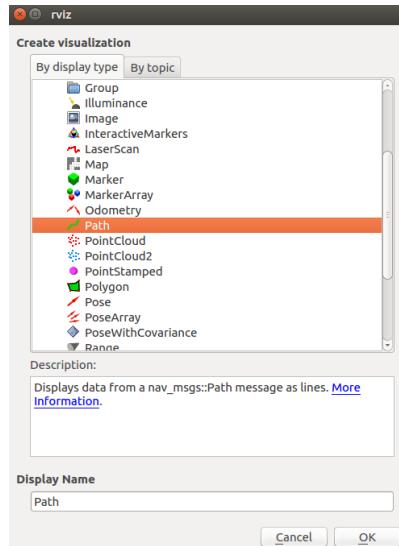


Figure 3.17: Displays.

a trace behind the UAV. The last parameter, "Pose Style" should be selected as "Arrow". By modifying its subparameters is possible to configured the form of the trajectory according to the user's preference.

Among the configurations the user can also modify the trajectory color. Next, the user should select another *Path display* using the "Add" button. This time the *display* should be configure to show the *UAV reference trajectory* which can be done by setting the "topic" to */Path\_ref* and configuring the other parameters in the same way the *UAV real trajectory* was configured.

Next the user should select the *display* "Marker" by selecting the "Add" button. The only parameter to be configured here is the "Topic" that should be set to the ros topic responsible to make possible visualize the UAV in rviz, */marker*. Figure 3.19 illustrates this process.

Rviz will then be configured and ready to be used. To visualize the UAV trajectory the user only needs to configure and start the simulation as shown by examples **UAV 4.0** or **UAV 4.0 with Scenario** according to the user's preference, then launch rviz. The trajectory should appear automatically in rviz as shown by figure 3.20.

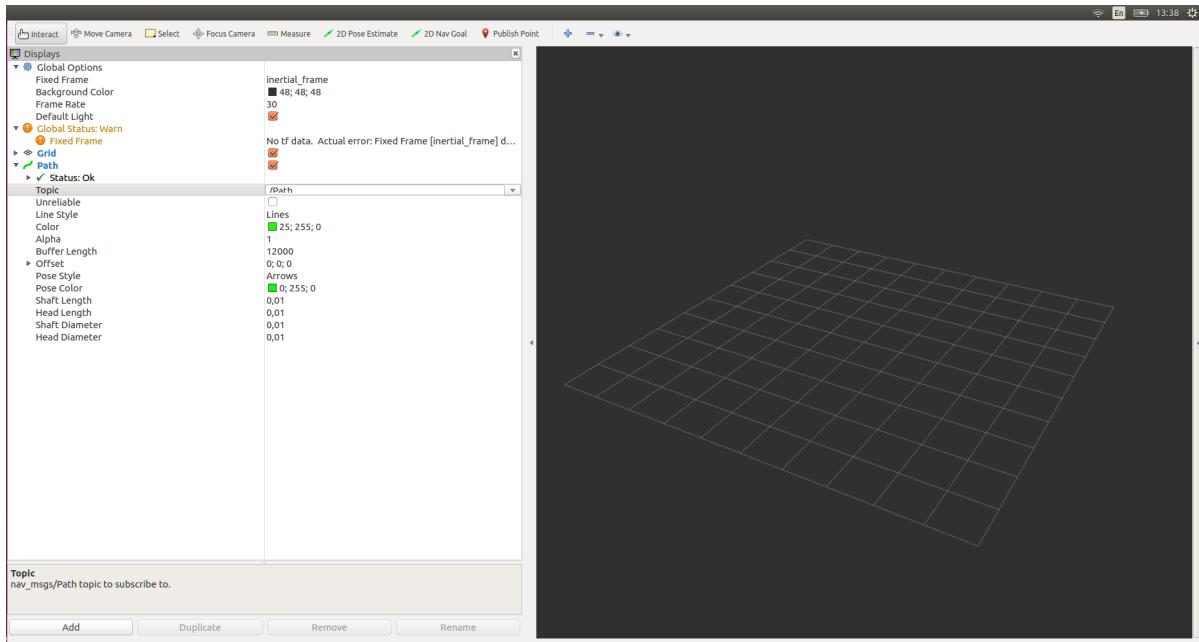


Figure 3.18: Display /Path Configuration.

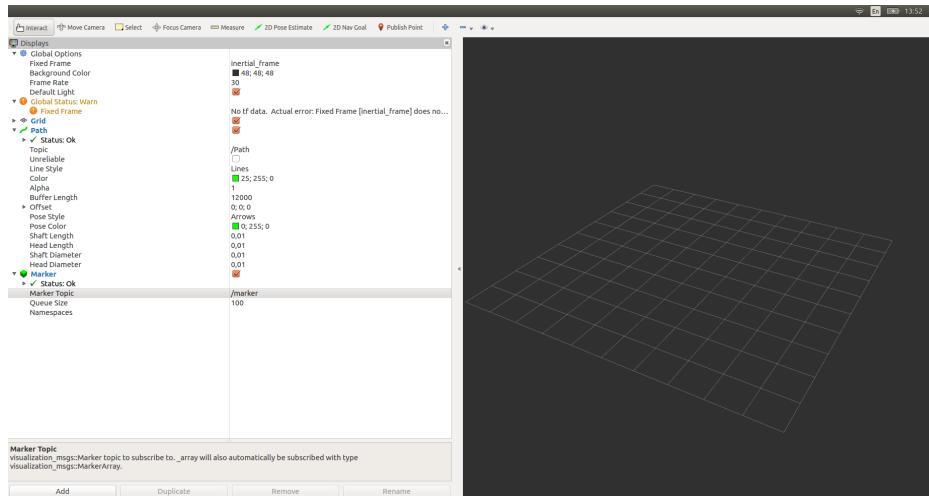


Figure 3.19: /marker Display Configuration.

### 3.6.4 Extra Funcionalities - Laser Sensor

The UAV 4.0 and Quadrotor both have a laser sensor for obstacle detection implemented. The parameters that control this functionality are in the ".sdf" files that can be access using the path:

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/models/vant_4_aerod/robot
```

or for the Quadrotor

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/models/quadcopter/robot
```

In the ".sdf" file just bellow the link created for the sensor should be the description of the laser sensor.

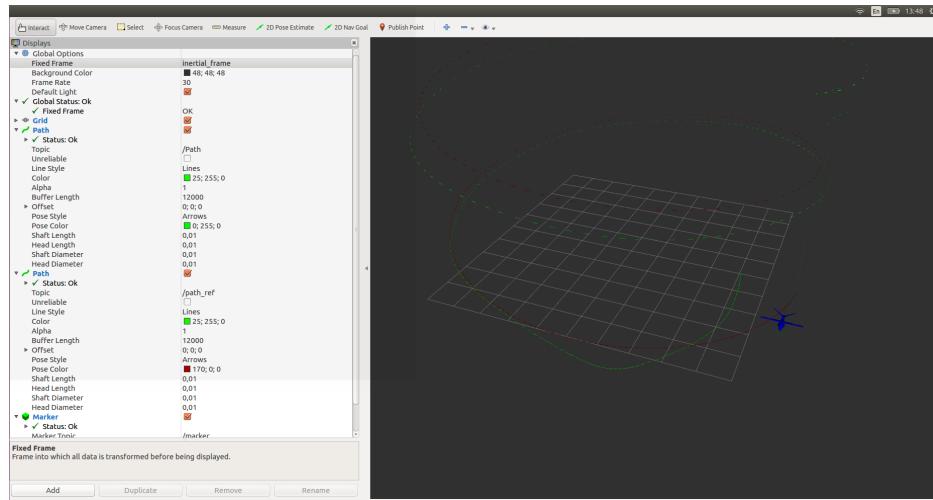


Figure 3.20: Rviz Trajectory.

```

<sensor type="ray" name="laser">
  <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
  <visualize>true</visualize>
  <update_rate>30</update_rate>
  <ray>
    <scan>
      <horizontal>
        <samples>40</samples>
        <resolution>1.0</resolution>
        <min_angle>-0.20</min_angle>
        <max_angle>0.1</max_angle>
      </horizontal>
      <vertical>
        <samples>40</samples>
        <resolution>1.0</resolution>
        <min_angle>-0.20</min_angle>
        <max_angle>0.1</max_angle>
      </vertical>
    </scan>
    <range>
      <min>0.01</min>
      <max>2.5</max>
      <resolution>0.02</resolution>
    </range>
  </ray>

  <plugin filename="libgazebo_ros_range.so" name="gazebo_ros_range">
    <gaussianNoise>0.005</gaussianNoise>
    <alwaysOn>true</alwaysOn>
    <updateRate>5</updateRate>
    <topicName>/sensor/laser</topicName>
    <frameName>laser_link</frameName>
    <visualize>true</visualize>
    <radiation>infrared</radiation>
    <fov>0.02</fov>
  </plugin>
</sensor>

```

Bellow, some important parameters the user can modify are listed.

- <visualize></visualize>: define if the laser beams will be visible in Gazebo;
- <horizontal></horizontal>: define parameters for horizontal laser beams.
- <vertical></vertical>: define parameters for vertical laser beams.
- <samples></samples>: define the number of laser beams.
- <resolution></resolution>:[http://sdformat.org/spec?ver=1.6&elem=sensor#horizontal\\_resolution](http://sdformat.org/spec?ver=1.6&elem=sensor#horizontal_resolution).
- <min\_angle></min\_angle>: define the minimum angle in radians.
- <max\_angle></max\_angle>: define the maximum angle in radians.
- <range></range>: define properties related to the range of the laser beam.
- <min></min>: minimum range for the laser beam.
- <max></max>: maximum range for the laser beam.
- <topicName></topicName>: name of the ros topic where the readings of the laser will be published.

The user can check the laser readings by typing the ros command bellow:

```
rostopic echo /sensor/laser
```

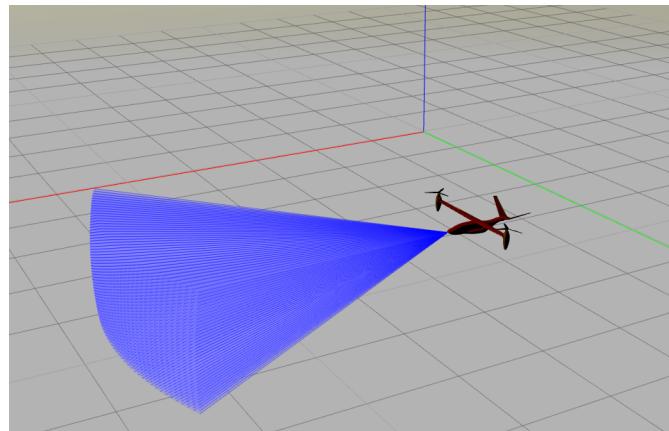


Figure 3.21: UAV 4.0 Laser Sensor.

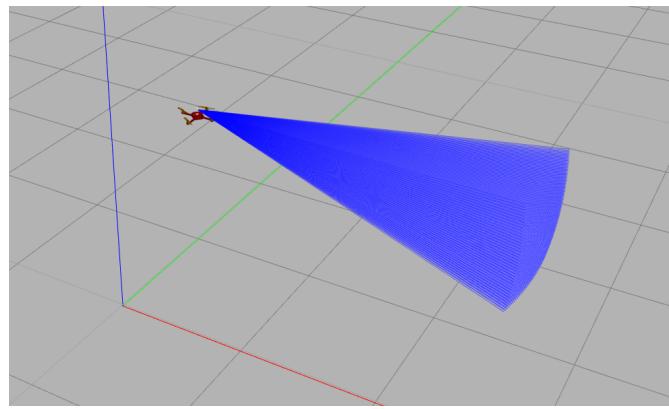


Figure 3.22: Quadrotor Laser Sensor.

### 3.6.5 Extra Funcionalities - First Person View

The UAV 4.0 and Quadrotor also have the first person view functionality. This functionality was implemented using a gazebo camera and allows the user to visualize the trajectory from the UAV perspective. The parameters

that control this functionality are in the UAV's ".sdf" files in the path:

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/models/vant_4_aerod/robot
```

or for the Quadrotor

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/models/quadcopter/robot
```

In the ".sdf" file just bellow the link created for the camera should be the description of the camera sensor.

```
<sensor name="camera" type="depth">
<camera>
<horizontal_fov>1.047</horizontal_fov>
<image>
<width>320</width>
<height>240</height>
</image>
<clip>
<near>0.1</near>
<far>100</far>
</clip>
</camera>
<always_on>1</always_on>
<update_rate>30</update_rate>
<visualize>true</visualize>
<plugin name="camera_plugin" filename="libgazebo_ros_openni_kinect.so">
<baseline>0.2</baseline>
<alwaysOn>true</alwaysOn>
<!-- Keep this zero, update_rate in the parent <sensor> tag
will control the frame rate. -->
<updateRate>0.0</updateRate>
<cameraName>camera_ir</cameraName>
<imageTopicName>/camera/color/image_raw</imageTopicName>
<cameraInfoTopicName>/camera/color/camera_info</cameraInfoTopicName>
<depthImageTopicName>/camera/depth/image_raw</depthImageTopicName>
<depthImageCameraInfoTopicName>/camera/depth/camera_info</depthImageCameraInfoTopicName>
<pointCloudTopicName>/camera/depth/points</pointCloudTopicName>
<frameName>camera_link</frameName>
<pointCloudCutoff>0.5</pointCloudCutoff>
<pointCloudCutoffMax>3.0</pointCloudCutoffMax>
<distortionK1>0</distortionK1>
<distortionK2>0</distortionK2>
<distortionK3>0</distortionK3>
<distortionT1>0</distortionT1>
<distortionT2>0</distortionT2>
<CxPrime>0</CxPrime>
<Cx>0</Cx>
<Cy>0</Cy>
<focalLength>0</focalLength>
<hackBaseline>0</hackBaseline>
</plugin>
</sensor>
```

Code: Camera functionality in "model.sdf" file

This sensor can works as a normal camera or as a depth camera where obstacles can be identify in rviz using the *PointCloud2* rviz display. The first thing the user should do afeter launching Rviz is to change the option

"Fixed Frame" to the option in the ".sdf" tag `<frameName></frameName>`, "camera\_link", then add the rviz *display* camera.

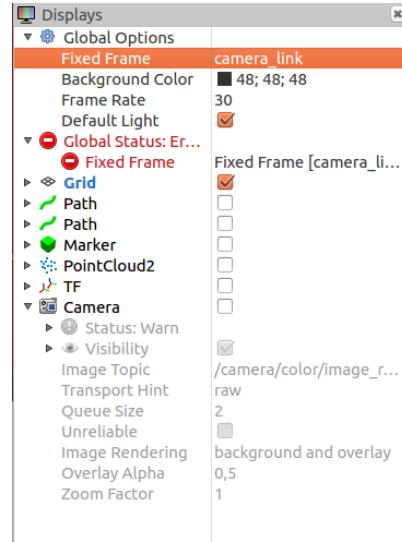


Figure 3.23: Camera *Display* Configuration

The rviz "topic" parameter shoul be set to the ros topic name defined in the ".sdf" file in the `<imageTopicName></imageTopicName>` tag. When a simulation with the UAV 4.0 or Quadrotor is launched will be possible to use rviz to visualize the trajectory from the UAV perspective.

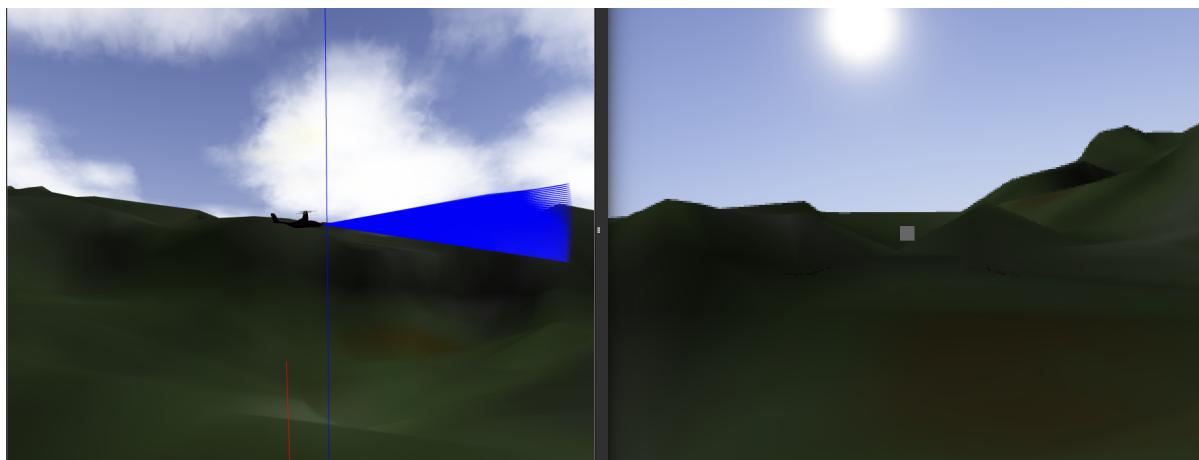


Figure 3.24: UAV 4.0 First Person View.

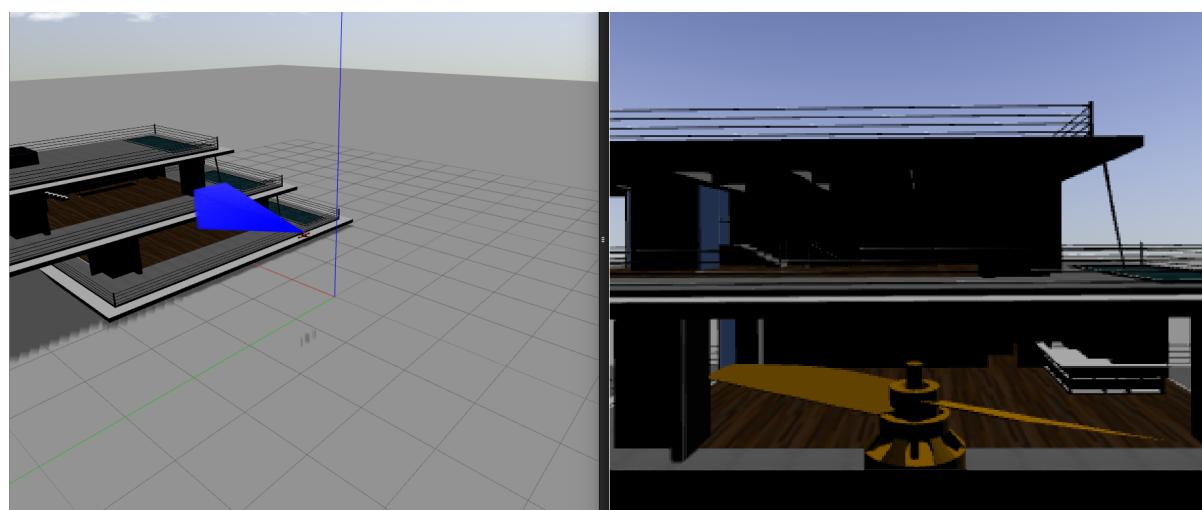


Figure 3.25: Quadrotor First Person View.



# Chapter 4

# Control strategy design

This chapter describes the procedures required for implementing control strategies in the simulation environment. First, the organization and structure of the files required to implement the control strategy are described. Then, the creation process of a new control strategy is presented, so as to illustrate the procedure shown in Section 3.5.

## 4.1 Organization

The general structure of the control design files is organized as depicted in Figure 4.1:

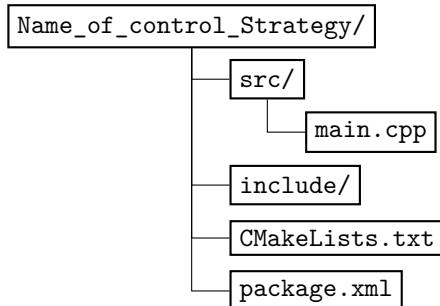


Figure 4.1: Organization of the control design's directory. The folders are represented by the boxes ending in the character /, and the files are the names containing extensions.

- File `main.cpp` is where the control strategy's logic is implemented.
- Folder `include/` stores user customized libraries that are included in `main.cpp`'s preamble.
- File `CMakeLists.txt` provides the compiler with information about the directory of the libraries included in the simulator's source codes. Details on how to include new libraries can be found in Appendix C.
- File `package.xml` is needed to store data such as the author's name, email address, etc. Details on its configuration are presented in Appendix D.

## 4.2 Standard interface for developing control strategies and template `main.cpp`

The creation of a new control strategy is done by inheriting the standard virtual class `IController`. Being a virtual class, its member functions (methods) must be implemented in the daughter class. Code 4.1 shows such methods.

Method `config()` is executed at the beginning of the simulations, and is used to make initial settings in the control strategy. Method `execute()` is called by the simulator at every sampling period. It is **the method that must contain all the control strategy's logic**. This function's order and amount of input and output signals

is determined in the interface as described in subsection 3.5.1. Functions `state()`, `error()` and `reference()` are methods that return the values of the error, reference and sensor signals, to be stored in text files. The data stored in .txt files can be used to plot graphics of the simulation results using MATLAB, for example.

```
#ifndef ICONTROLLER_HPP
#define ICONTROLLER_HPP

#include "simulator_msgs/SensorArray.h"

class Icontroller
{
public:
    Icontroller(){};
    virtual ~Icontroller(){};
    virtual void config()=0;
    virtual std::vector<double> execute(simulator_msgs::SensorArray)=0;
    virtual std::vector<double> Reference()=0;
    virtual std::vector<double> Error()=0;
    virtual std::vector<double> State()=0;
};

extern "C" {
    typedef Icontroller* create_t();
    typedef void destroy_t(Icontroller*);
}
#endif
```

Code 4.1: Interface for implementing control strategies

When a new control strategy is created, the simulation environment provides a file `main.cpp` as basic template for the implementation of the control strategy. This file's content is shown in Code 4.2. The next section presents an example of control strategy implementation.

```

public: std::vector<double> Error()
{
    std::vector<double> out;
    return out;
}
public: std::vector<double> State()
{
    std::vector<double> out;
    return out;
}
};

extern "C"
{
    Icontroller *create(void) {return new demonstracao;}
    void destroy(Icontroller *p) {delete p;}
}

```

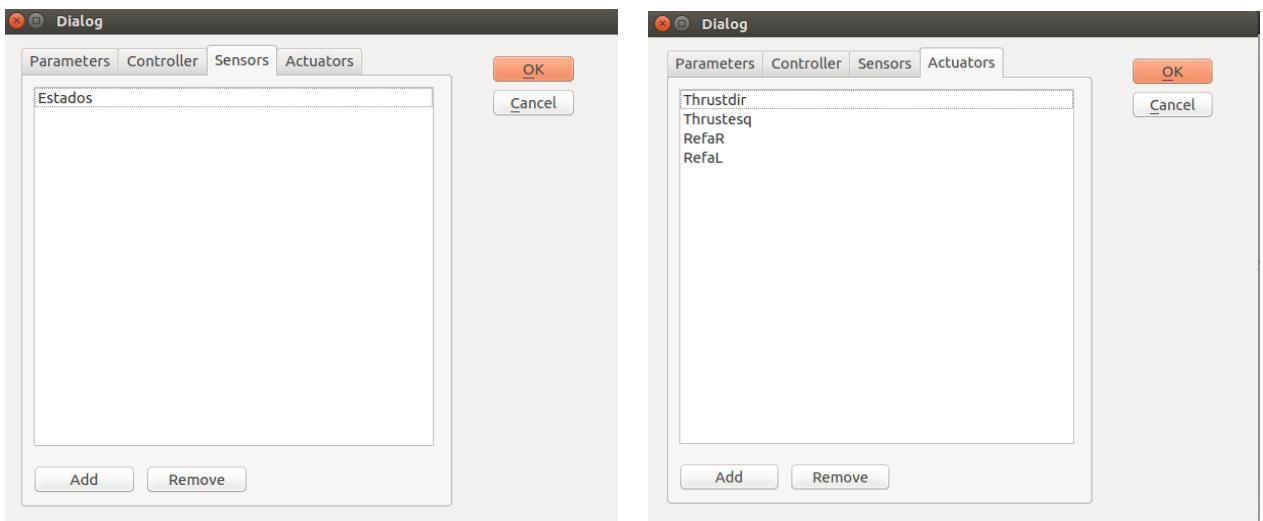
Code 4.2: Control strategy implementation template

## 4.3 Control strategy implementation example

This section demonstrates the process of implementing a new control strategy. It shows an example of using the GUI to create and modify a new control strategy, and also the compilation process. The example used corresponds to the implementation of a robust control strategy for tracking the load path, carried by a tilt-rotor UAV. More details on the control strategy can be found in [Lara et al. \(2017\)](#).

### 4.3.1 Configuring the list of available sensors and actuators

In the window described in Section 3.5, when tabs *Sensors* or *Actuators* are selected, one of the windows depicted in Figure 4.2 will show up. In both of them, the user can add and remove instruments from the lists by using buttons *Add* and *Remove*. Furthermore, by double-clicking a name in the list, it is possible to edit the instruments properties. Those lists are of fundamental importance for the control strategy's implementation. The instruments and their respective order will define the input and output data for the controller.

Figure 4.2: Tabs *Sensors* and *Actuators*

In this example, the controller will receive an array with scalar data containing information provided by a single sensor, whose communication topic is named `Estados`. The controller must return a floating point vector of size 4 with input control signals for the actuators, whose communication topics are in the following order:

1. `Thrustdir`
2. `Thrustesq`
3. `RefaR`
4. `RefaL`

### 4.3.2 Creating a new control strategy

To create a new control strategy, press *New Controller* in tab *Controller*. A new window will show up, requesting the user for the new controller's name. In this example, the control strategy will be called `vant2load_hinfinity` (Figure 4.3). After confirming the controller's name, a new Nautilus window will be opened with the directory for the created project (Figure 4.4).

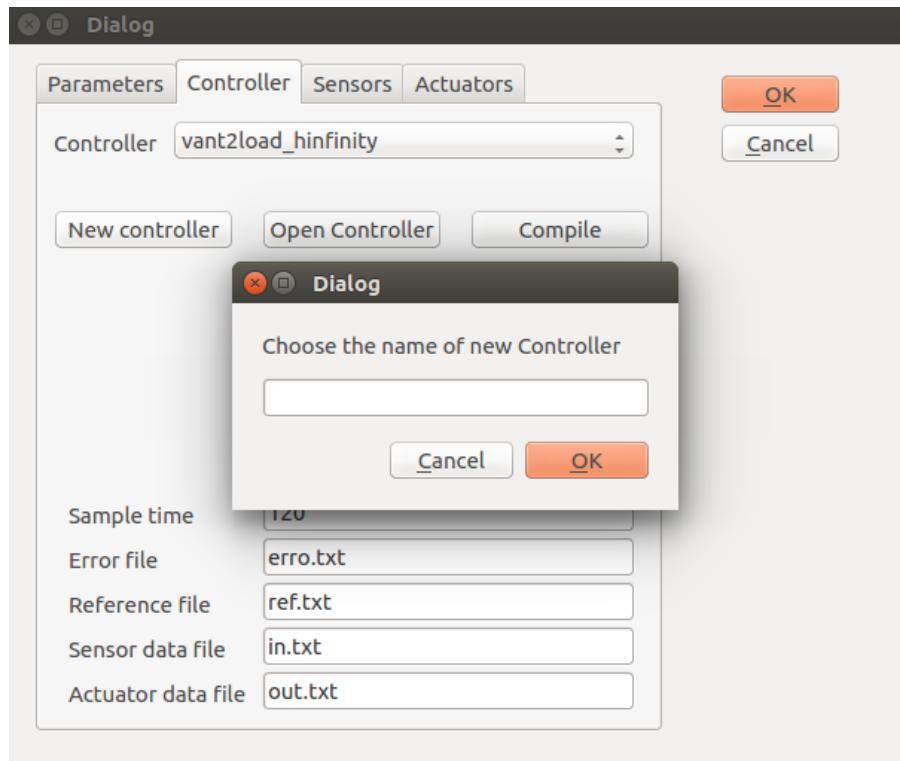


Figure 4.3: Creating a new control strategy

### 4.3.3 Implementing the new control strategy

Code 4.3 shows an example of control strategy code implemented in file `main.cpp`. It can be noted in the example that it is necessary to include three libraries:

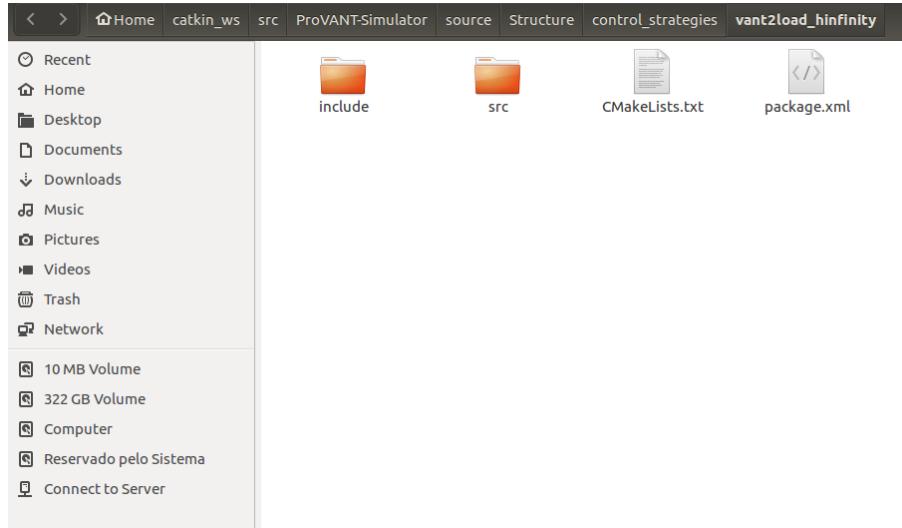


Figure 4.4: Files and directories associated with the new control strategy

```

private: std::vector<double> pqr2EtaDot(double in_a, double in_b, double in_c,
                                         double phi, double theta, double psii)
{
    std::vector<double> out;
    out.push_back(in_a + in_c*cos(phi)*tan(theta) + in_b*sin(phi)*tan(theta));
    out.push_back(in_b*cos(phi) - in_c*sin(phi));
    out.push_back((in_c*cos(phi))/cos(theta) + (in_b*sin(phi))/cos(theta));
    return out;
}
};

extern "C"
{
    Icontroller *create(void) {
        return new hinfinity;
    }
    void destroy(Icontroller *p) {
        delete p;
    }
}

```

Code 4.3: Example code

- `#include "Icontroller.hpp"` informs to the code the standard interface for creating controllers in the simulation environment;
- `#include <Eigen/Eigen>` imports the functionalities provided by library Eigen<sup>1</sup>. This library provides functions for making linear algebra operations;
- `#include "simulator_msgs/Sensor.h"` informs the class responsible for the abstraction of the communication pattern between the controller and the sensors.

Attributes `Xref`, `Erro`, `Input`, `K` and `X` are Eigen library's vector and matrix structures, responsible for the linear algebra operation, thus allowing for the control strategy's execution. Attribute `T` determines the controller's sampling period.

Constructor `hinfinity()` initializes the class' attributes, while destructor `~hinfinity()` has no functionality in the simulator's context.

<sup>1</sup><https://eigen.tuxfamily.org>

In this example, method `config()` is used to attribute values to the gain matrix `K`, respecting the Eigen library's syntax. However, the user can use this space to make any other initial configuration. Finally, the control strategy's logic is implemented in method `execute()`, that is executed at every sampling period, as previously mentioned.

The code begins declaring the (static) variable `xint`, `x_ant`, `yint`, `y_ant`, `zint`, `z_ant`, `yawint` and `yaw_ant`, used to store the values of the integrators implemented in the control strategy. Next comes the code piece regarding the sensors' data, obtained by vector `arraymsg`. Since only one sensor is available in this example (`Estados`), only the vector's first position is accessed (using the syntax `arraymsg.values.at(0)`). If more than one sensor were to be available, the  $n^{\text{th}}$  sensor's data would be accessed using `arraymsg.values.at(n-1)` and the order of this vector's elements would be defined in advance in tab `Sensor`, as shown in 3.8. Next, the reference for the controller is defined and the integrators are implemented, using the trapezoidal integration method, for the realization of the control law. Finally, the feedforward control action is calculated.

Methods `Reference()`, `Error()` and `State()` are used to store the reference, error and state signals, respectively, in the simulator's output text files. Function `pqr2EtaDot()` corresponds to a mapping of part of the information received by the sensors, required for this example's control strategy implementation.

Like function `pqr2EtaDot()`, any additional function required for the control strategy's implementation, which can also be related to filtering algorithms, can be written in `main.cpp`, or in auxiliary files created inside the folder `include/`, shown in 4.4 (in that case, they must also be included in `main.cpp`'s header).

Finally, the following code piece corresponds to the functions required to make sure the control strategy will be loaded in the simulator's execution time. Function `create()` creates an instance of the class that encapsulates the controller, and function `destroy()` is used to destruct the class's instance.

```
extern "C"
{
    Icontroller *create(void) {
        return new hinfinity;
    }
    void destroy(Icontroller *p) {
        delete p;
    }
}
```

#### 4.3.4 Compiling the control strategy's code

After implementing the control strategy, the corresponding code can be compiled by pressing button *Compile* (as explained in Chapter 3, see Figure 3.5 item 4).

# Appendix A

## Models

The files associated with the UAV models used in ProVANT Simulator are located in the following path:

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/provant_simulator/source/Database/simulation_elements/models/real
```

Each model in the simulation environment has a directory with its respective name. This directory contains files that describe the dynamic, visual, collision and sensorial models, and the control law used. Thus, in case it's necessary to add a new model, or edit an existing one, it must have the UAV's configuration/description files organized as depicted in Figure A.1.

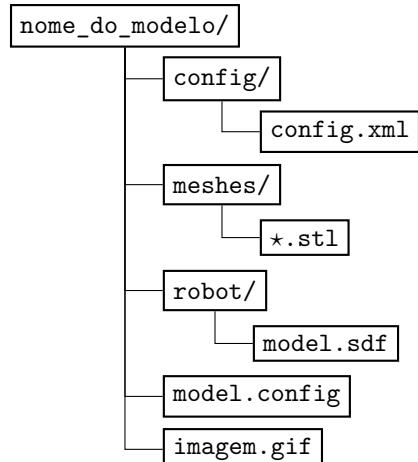


Figure A.1: Directory's organization with UAV model description files

where:

1. File **config.xml** stores the information regarding the controller to be used in the model.
2. File **model.config** describes the UAV's dynamic, collision and visual models for simulator Gazebo.
3. File **model.config** describes the model's metadata.
4. File **imagem.gif** contains the image used by the graphical interface to illustrate the UAV model (see Figure 3.3, item 2).
5. The directory **meshes** stores the files exported from the CAD tool (used for the UAV's mechanical design), like SolidWorks.

The file **model.config** tells Gazebo where is the file with the model's structural data and provides information regarding the model's author, version and description. Figure A.1 illustrates an example of this file. The tags used in **model.config** are:

- <**name**> The model's name </**name**>
- <**version**> The model's version </**version**>
- <**sdf**> Path to the file that describes the Gazebo model's dynamic, colision and visual characteristics </**sdf**>
- <**author**>
  - <**name**> The author's name </**name**>
  - <**email**> Author's email adress </**email**>
- <**description**> Brief description of the model </**description**>

```

<?xml version="1.0"?>
<model>
    <name>vant</name>
    <version>1.0</version>
    <sdf version='1.5'>robot/model.sdf</sdf>
    <author>
        <name>provant</name>
        <email>provant@ufmg.br</email>
    </author>
    <description>
        The UAV version 3.0 of the provant project
    </description>
</model>

```

Code A.1: Example content for file `model.config`

The file `config.xml` stores all the settings regarding the control structure to be used during the simulation, such as sensors, actuatores, control laws and sampling period. With the purpose of helping the user to edit this file, the graphical interface provides tools for this task, so that the user won't have to directly access this file. Code A.2 illustrates an example of this file:

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<config>
    <TopicoStep>Step</TopicoStep>
    <Sampletime>12</Sampletime>
    <Strategy>libvant3_lqr.so</Strategy>
    <RefPath>ref.txt</RefPath>
    <Outputfile>out.txt</Outputfile>
    <InputPath>in.txt</InputPath>
    <ErroPath>erro.txt</ErroPath>
    <Sensors>
        <Device>Estados</Device>
    </Sensors>
    <Actuators>
        <Device>ThrustR</Device>
        <Device>ThrustL</Device>
        <Device>TauR</Device>
        <Device>TauL</Device>
        <Device>Elevdef</Device>
        <Device>Ruddef</Device>
    </Actuators>
</config>

```

Code A.2: Example of `config.xml` file

The tags used in file `config.xml` are:

- **<TopicoStep>** The synchronization topic between the simulator and the controller. **This tag's value must not be changed.** **</TopicoStep>**
- **<Sampletime>** The controller's sampling period, in milliseconds **</Sampletime>**
- **<Strategy>** Name of the library associated to the implementation of the control strategy to be used along with this model **</Strategy>**
- **<RefPath>** Name of the file where the setpoint signal data is stored **</RefPath>**
- **<Outputfile>** Name of the file where the control signal data is stored **</Outputfile>**
- **<InputPath>** Name of the file where the sensor data is stored **</InputPath>**
- **<ErrorPath>** Name of the file where the error vector data is stored **</ErrorPath>**
- **<Sensors>** Name of the sensor topics to which the control strategy will have access (in the specified order) **</Sensors>**
- **<Actuators>** Name of the actuator topics to which the control strategy will have access (the controller must return a vector with the same amount of data and in the order specified here) **</Actuators>**

File `model.sdf` provides to Gazebo the UAV model's information in XML format following the **SDF format** (Figure A.3 illustrates an example of this file). The next section describes more thoroughly the basic structure of an SDF file.

## A.1 The SDF file

Before presenting the basic configuration of an SDF file, it's necessary to introduce a few concepts.

In the simulator, a model correspond to a mechanical system, which can be formed by one or multiple rigid bodies<sup>1</sup>. Thus, as in a manipulator, the bodies in the simulator are called links. Child links are connected to parent links by joints. Child links are rigid bodies whose movements are restricted by the connection (joint) with bodies called parent links. The links have inertial, visual and collision properties.

As for joints, they impose restrictions to the relative movement between two links and have properties such as joint type (prismatic, revolute, etc.), movement limits (position and speed), friction, etc. Code A.3 illustrates an example of an SDF file.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<sdf version="1.4">
  <model name="modelo">
    <link name="corpo">
      ...
    </link>
    <link name="servo">
      ...
    </link>
    <joint name="corpo_servo">
      ...
    </joint>
  </model>
</sdf>
```

Code A.3: Description of a model in file `model.sdf`

The tags used are:

- **<link>** Describes a link, specifying its name **</link>**
- **<joint>** Describes a joint, specifying its name **</joint>**

Each link in the model has three types of description for the simulator: the kinematic, visual and collision descriptions. The configuration structure of a link in an SDF file has the format depicted in code A.4:

---

<sup>1</sup>By assuming a body as rigid, the elasticity and deformation effects are neglected

```

<link name="servodir">
  <pose>0.02E-3 -277.61E-3 56.21E-3 -0.0872665 0 0</pose>
  <inertial>
    ...
  </inertial>
  <collision name="servodircollision"> <!--opcional-->
    ...
  </collision>
  <visual name="servodirvisual"> <!--opcional-->
    ...
  </visual>
</link>

```

Code A.4: Description of a link in file `model.sdf`

The tags used are:

- `<pose>` Link's pose `</pose>`
- `<inertial>` Link's inertial properties `</inertial>`
- `<collision>` Link's collision properties. The collision models for the UAVs used in the simulation environment are obtained from CAD files. `</collision>`
- `<visual>` Visual characteristics such as color and shape. The visual models for the UAVs used in the simulation environment are obtained from CAD files, except for the color, which is specified separately. `</visual>`

**Links inertial parameters:** The user must inform each link's inertial parameters inside the tag `inertial`. The required information are the mass, the center of mass' relative position and the inertia tensor. In Code A.5 an exemple configuration of a link's inertial parameters in format SDF is illustrated.

```

<inertial>
  <mass>0.0809439719362664</mass>
  <pose>
    -3.60859273452335E-10 -0.000226380714807978 0.0594780519701684 0 0 0
  </pose>
  <inertia>
    <ixx>3.88267747087835E-06</ixx>
    <ixy>6.03219085082653E-06</ixy>
    <ixz>-2.78471406661236E-12</ixz>
    <iyy>0.000104858690365283</iyy>
    <iyz>7.0486590219062E-07</iyz>
    <izz>8.31755564684115E-05</izz>
  </inertia>
</inertial>

```

Code A.5: Description of inertial characteristics in file `model.sdf`

The tags used are:

- `<mass>` The link's mass `</mass>`
- `<pose>` The center of mass' position relative to its main coordinate system `</pose>`
- `<inertia>` The link's inertia tensor `</inertia>`

**Link's collision properties:** In order for collision effects to be applied to the link, the user must describe the link's shape in file `model.sdf`. There are many ways to describe it, but this guide presents only the method used in the UAV models in ProVANT Simulator, which consists of importing files created with CAD tools, such as SolidWorks. Code A.6 shows an example description of a link's visual parameters using an STL file:

```

<collision name="servodircollision">
    <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
    <geometry>
        <mesh>
            <uri>model://vant_2comcarga/meshes/servodir.STL</uri>
        </mesh>
    </geometry>
</collision>

```

Code A.6: Description of collision characteristics in file `model.sdf`

The tags used are:

- `<pose>` The collision model's pose relative to the link's coordinates' origin `</pose>`
- `<geometry>`
  - `<mesh>`
    - `<uri>` Path to the mesh file, relative to the model's directory, obtained by exporting from SolidWorks `</uri>`
- `</mesh>`
- `</geometry>`

**Links visual properties:** In order for the link to be visualized during the simulation, the user must describe the link's visual parameters in file `model.sdf`. Just like in the previous case, there are several description methods, but this guide illustrates only the one used in the simulation environment's UAVs, which consists of importing files created from CAD tools. Code A.7 Shows an example description of a link's visual parameters using an STL file:

```

<visual name="servodirvisual">
    <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
    <geometry>
        <mesh>
            <uri>model://vant_2comcarga/meshes/servodir.STL</uri>
        </mesh>
    </geometry>
    <material>
        <ambient>0 0 0 0</ambient>
        <diffuse>1 1 1 1</diffuse>
        <specular>0.1 0.1 0.1 1</specular>
        <emissive>0 0 0 0</emissive>
    </material>
</visual>

```

Code A.7: Description of visual characteristics in file `model.sdf`

The tags used are:

- `<pose>` The visual model's pose relative to the link's coordinates' origin `</pose>`
- `<geometry>`
  - `<mesh>`
    - `<uri>` Path to the mesh file, relative to the model's directory, obtained by exporting from SolidWorks `</uri>`
- `</mesh>`
- `</geometry>`
- `<material>`
  - `<ambient>` Ambient color `</ambient>`

```

    - <diffuse> Diffuse color </diffuse>
    - <specular> Specular color </specular>
    - <emissive> Emissive color </emissive>
</material>
```

### A.1.1 Joint description

The joint types in the simulator are:

- **revolute**: Rotation movement;
- **gearbox**: Revolute joint with transmission gears between links with different torque and speed ratios;
- **revolute2**: Joint composed by two revolute joints in series;
- **prismatic**: Prismatic joint;
- **universal**: Joint behaving as an articulated sphere;
- **piston**: Joint behaving as a combination of a revolute and a prismatic joint.

An example of a joint's configuration structure is shown in Code A.8.

```

<joint name="aR" type="revolute">
  <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
  <parent>corpo</parent>
  <child>servodir</child>
  <axis>
    <xyz>0 0.9962 -0.0872</xyz>
    <limit>
      <lower>-1.5</lower>
      <upper>1.5</upper>
      <effort>2</effort>
      <velocity>0.5</velocity>
    </limit>
    <dynamics>
      <damping>0</damping>
      <friction>0</friction>
    </dynamics>
  </axis>
</joint>
```

Code A.8: Joint description in file model.sdf

The tags used are:

- **<pose>** Child link's pose relative to the parent link **</pose>**
- **<parent>** Parent link's name **</parent>**
- **<axis>** Unit vector corresponding to the joint's rotation axis (expressed in the model's coordinate system if the SDF version is 1.4, or in the child link's coordinate system if the version is 1.6) **</axis>**
- **<lower>** Lower limit to the joint's position (in radians if it's a revolute joint or meters if it's prismatic) **</lower>**
- **<upper>** Upper limit to the joint's position (in radians if it's a revolute joint or meters if it's prismatic) **</upper>**
- **<velocity>** Joint's speed limit (in rad/s if it's a revolute joint or m/s if it's prismatic) **</velocity>**
- **<effort>** Joint's effort limit (in N·m if it's a revolute joint or N if it's prismatic) **</effort>**
- **<damping>** Viscous friction coefficient **</damping>**
- **<friction>** Static friction coefficient **</friction>**

### A.1.2 Plugin description

Plugins are dynamic libraries loaded during the simulator's initialization, using the configurations stored in the model description file (SDF file). These libraries are used to implement the sensors and actuators in the simulation environment.

ProVANT Simulator only uses two of Gazebo's plugin types for the UAV model's control and monitoring: Model and Sensor.

**Model plugins:** Model plugins are dynamic libraries which control and monitor the UAV model's simulation variables. With them it's possible to create customized sensors and actuators. To insert a model plugin in file `model.sdf`, the user must add `<plugin>` tags defining its name, the dynamic library's name and the internal tags required to configure the plugin. Code A.9 exemplifies the insertion process.

The options for model plugins available in ProVANT Simulator are detailed in appendix B.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<sdf version="1.4">
  <model name="modelo">
    <link name="corpo">
      ...
    </link>
    <link name="servo">
      ...
    </link>
    <joint name="corpo_servo">
      ...
    </joint>
    <plugin name="plugin_servo">
      ...
    </plugin>
  </model>
</sdf>
```

Code A.9: Insertion of model plugins in file `model.sdf`

**Sensor plugins:** Sensor plugins are dynamic libraries to simulate sensors, used by ProVANT Simulator to measure data from a UAV model. To insert sensor plugins, the user must add `<sensor>` tags defining its name and the internal tags required to configure the plugin. Code A.10 exemplifies the insertion process.

The sensor available in ProVANT Simulator are GPS, IMU, sonar and magnetometer ([more details](#) on their configuration in file `model.sdf`). However, those sensors don't have a communication interface with ROS, since they broadcast their data via Gazebo topics. To broadcast these data to ROS topics the user must add, along with the sensor plugins, model plugins. Such plugins are specified in appendix B.

Note: In order for the sensor to work properly, the user must adjust the sampling rate to exactly the inverse of the simulation step (e.g. 1000 Hz).

### A.1.3 Communication messages' standard

As a standard, all plugins and sensor available in the simulation environment make their provide their data using the same data structure. This data structure is abstracted in ROS through messages. Messages are simple data structures containing typed fields. The sensor plugins' standard message is illustrated below, where:

- **header:** provides the time instant in which the data was obtained, the frame and the sequential ID
- **name:** provides the name of the instrument which provided the message
- **values:** vector containing the data provided by the sensors

```

<link name="servodir">
  <pose>0.02E-3 -277.61E-3 56.21E-3 -0.0872665 0 0</pose>
  <inertial>
    ...
  </inertial>
  <collision name="servodircollision"><!--opcional-->
    ...
  </collision>
  <visual name="servodirvisual"> <!--opcional-->
    ...
  </visual>
  <sensor name="servosensor"> <!--opcional-->
    ...
  </sensor>
  <sensor name="servosensor2"> <!--opcional-->
    ...
  </sensor>
</link>

```

Code A.10: Insertion of sensor plugins in file `model.sdf`

- Header header
- string name
- float64[] values

The controller, in turn, receives a type of message which stores the messages of all sensors from a given simulation step in the same place and in a user-defined order, as described in section 3.5.1. This type is illustrated below:

- Header header
- string name
- float64[] values

## A.2 UAV Models

In this chapter section all uav models available in the simulator will be detailed. Each uav will be described showing its state vector, the coordinate frames used to derive the kinematic and dynamic models and a table with parameters.

### A.2.1 UAV 2.0

The first model implemented in the simulator was the UAV 2.0. The UAV was implemented with the goal to allow the user to simulate a simple tilt rotor UAV.

The kinematic model and dynamic model were developed using the frames displayed in figure A.3 and the parameters shown in table A.4 ignoring the terms referent to the load parameters.

The model was implemented with an LQR control strategy with the followinf state vector:

$$\mathbf{X} = [x \ y \ z \ \phi \ \theta \ \psi]'$$

Three plugins were employed in the UAV simulation: The "brushless" plugin to apply the forces generated by the propellers, the "servo" plugin to allow actuate the servo motors, and the "statespace" to access the UAV state vector needed for control. This plugins are further detailed in appendix B. In figure A.5, the rectangular shapes indicate the ros topics and the roud shapes represent the ros nodes trigger in the simulation.

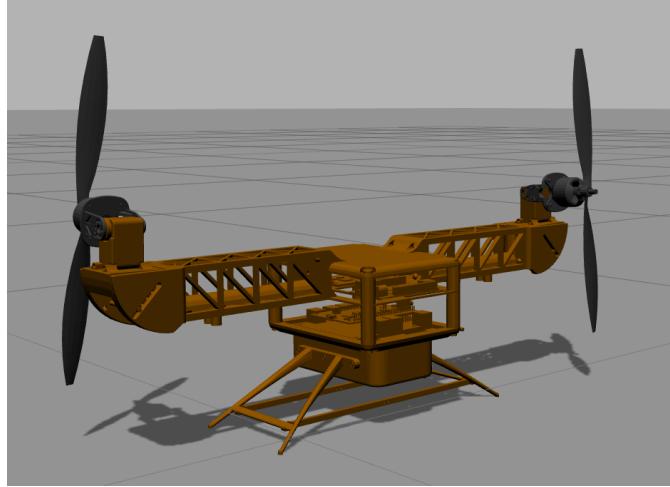


Figure A.2: Modelo VANT 2.0

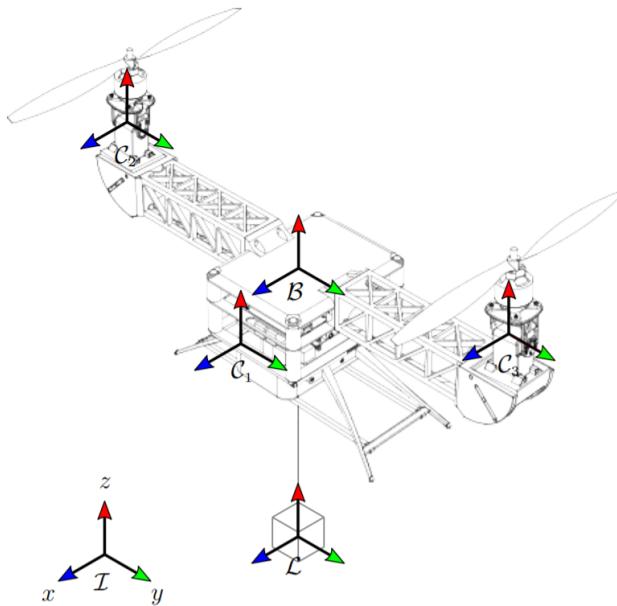


Figure A.3: UAV 2.0 Coordinate Frames

Parameter	Value
$m_c$	0.05000 Kg
$m_1$	1.70249 Kg
$m_2, m_3$	0.13973 Kg
$d_{c_3}^e$	$[0 \ 0 \ 0.5]^T$ m
$d_{c_1}^e$	$[-0.00433 \ 0.00060 \ -0.04559]^T$ m
$d_{c_2}^e$	$[0.00002 \ -0.27761 \ 0.05493]^T$ m
$d_{c_3}^e$	$[0.00077 \ 0.27761 \ 0.05493]^T$ m
$I_c$	$2.645 \cdot 10^{-6} \cdot \mathbb{I}_{3 \times 3}$ Kg·m <sup>2</sup>
$I_1$	$\begin{bmatrix} 3697.66749 & 0.36342 & -9.51029 \\ * & 840.10403 & 0.61804 \\ * & * & 3865.05354 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-6}$ Kg·m <sup>2</sup>
$I_2$	$\begin{bmatrix} 441.68245 & 0 & 0 \\ * & 441.67985 & -1.07006 \\ * & * & 0.64418 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-6}$ Kg·m <sup>2</sup>
$I_3$	$\begin{bmatrix} 441.68245 & 0 & 0 \\ * & 441.67985 & 1.07006 \\ * & * & 0.64418 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-6}$ Kg·m <sup>2</sup>
$\hat{g}$	$[0 \ 0 \ -9.81]^T$ m/s <sup>2</sup>
$k_r$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-7}$ N·m·s <sup>2</sup>
$b$	$9.5 \cdot 10^{-6}$ N·s <sup>2</sup>
$(\lambda_R, \lambda_L)$	(1, -1)
$\beta$	5°
$\mu_\gamma$	0.005 N·m/(rad/s)

Figure A.4: UAV 2.0 Parameters

### A.2.2 UAV 2.0 Load

The second model implemented in the simulator was the UAV 2.0 for load transportation missions. The UAV was implemented with the goal to allow the user to simulate a recurrent topic in UAV research, the load transportantion problem. This problem was extensively studied in the ProVANT project and approached in several works like in this paper:[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/327836019\\_Suspended\\_Load\\_Path\\_Tracking\\_Control\\_Using\\_a\\_Tilt-rotor\\_UAV\\_Based\\_on\\_Zonotopic\\_State\\_Estimation](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/327836019_Suspended_Load_Path_Tracking_Control_Using_a_Tilt-rotor_UAV_Based_on_Zonotopic_State_Estimation).

The kinematic model and dynamic model were developed using the frames displayed in figure A.7 and the parameters shownned in table A.8

The model was implemented with an  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  control strategy with the followinf state vector:

$$\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{q} \quad \dot{\mathbf{q}} \quad \int x \quad \int y \quad \int z \quad \int \psi]'$$

Where,

$$\mathbf{q} = [x \quad y \quad z \quad \phi \quad \theta \quad \psi \quad x_{load} \quad y_{load} \quad \alpha_R \quad \alpha_L]'$$

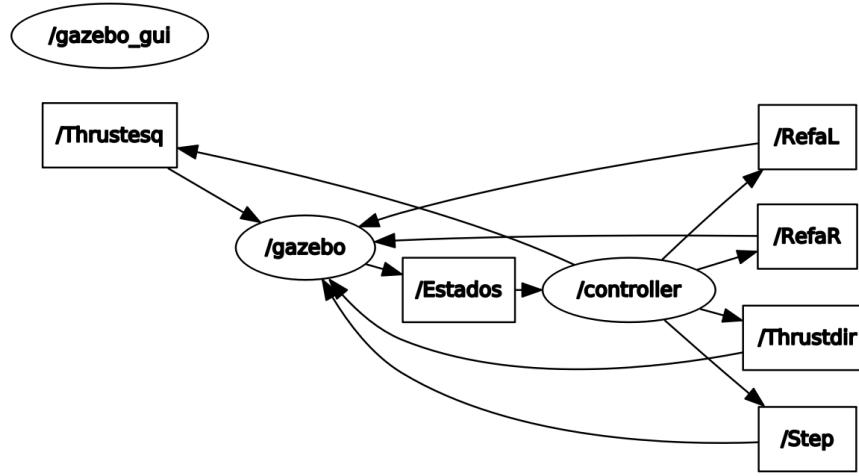


Figure A.5: UAV 2.0 Load Communication



Figure A.6: VANT 2.0 Load

Three plugins were employed in the UAV simulation: The "brushless" plugin to apply the forces generated by the propellers, the "servo" plugin to allow actuate the servo motors, and the "statespaceload" to access the UAV state vector needed for control. This plugins are further detailed in appendix B. In figure A.9, the rectangular shapes indicate the ros topics and the roud shapes represent the ros nodes trigger in the simulation.

### A.2.3 UAV 3.0

In the UAV 3.0 project aerodynamic surfaces were added . By doing so, a small deflexion in a aerodynamic surface can generate aerodynamic forces that can improve cruise flight. Similar to UAV 2.0, the UAV 3.0 was used for several works developed in the ProVANT project as can be shown in the paper: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/311919640\\_A\\_robust\\_adaptive\\_mixing\\_control\\_for\\_improved\\_forward\\_flight\\_of\\_a\\_tilt-rotor\\_UAV](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/311919640_A_robust_adaptive_mixing_control_for_improved_forward_flight_of_a_tilt-rotor_UAV)

The kinematic and dynamic model were developed using the coordinate frames shown in figure A.11 and the parameters in table A.12

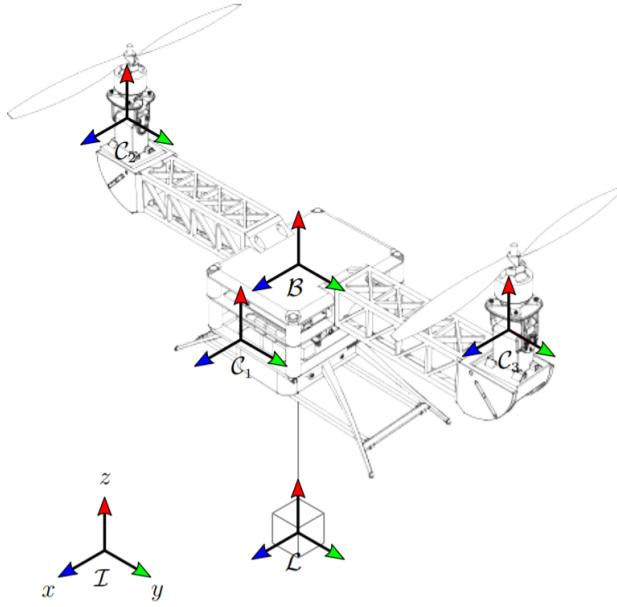


Figure A.7: UAV 2.0 Load Coordinate Frames

Parameter	Value
$m_c$	0.05000 Kg
$m_1$	1.70249 Kg
$m_2, m_3$	0.13973 Kg
$d_s^c$	$[0 \ 0 \ 0.5]^T$ m
$d_B^s$	$[-0.00433 \ 0.00060 \ -0.04559]^T$ m
$d_{C_1}^s$	$[0.00002 \ -0.27761 \ 0.05493]^T$ m
$d_{C_2}^s$	$[0.00077 \ 0.27761 \ 0.05493]^T$ m
$I_c$	$2.645 \cdot 10^{-6} \cdot \mathbb{I}_{3 \times 3}$ Kg·m <sup>2</sup>
$I_1$	$\begin{bmatrix} 3697.66749 & 0.36342 & -9.51029 \\ * & 840.10403 & 0.61804 \\ * & * & 3865.05354 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-6}$ Kg·m <sup>2</sup>
$I_2$	$\begin{bmatrix} 441.68245 & 0 & 0 \\ * & 441.67985 & -1.07006 \\ * & * & 0.64418 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-6}$ Kg·m <sup>2</sup>
$I_3$	$\begin{bmatrix} 441.68245 & 0 & 0 \\ * & 441.67985 & 1.07006 \\ * & * & 0.64418 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-6}$ Kg·m <sup>2</sup>
$\hat{g}$	$[0 \ 0 \ -9.81]^T$ m/s <sup>2</sup>
$k_r$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-7}$ N·m·s <sup>2</sup>
$b$	$9.5 \cdot 10^{-6}$ N·s <sup>2</sup>
$(\lambda_R, \lambda_L)$	(1, -1)
$\beta$	5°
$\mu_r$	0.005 N·m/(rad/s)

Figure A.8: UAV 2.0 Load Parameters

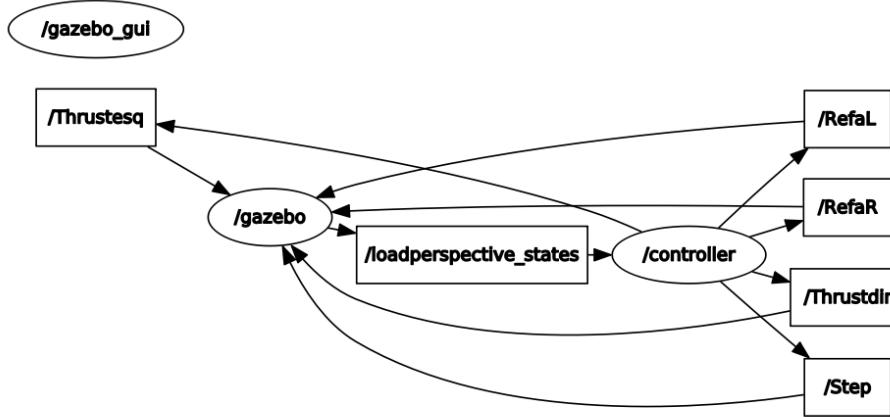


Figure A.9: UAV 2.0 Load Communication

The control strategy for UAV 3.0 is a  $\frac{\mathcal{H}_2}{\mathcal{H}_\infty}$  with the following state vector:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ p \\ q \\ r \\ \dot{\alpha}_R \\ \dot{\alpha}_L \\ z \\ \phi \\ \theta \\ \psi \\ \alpha_R \\ \alpha_L \\ \int u \\ \int v \\ \int \psi \end{bmatrix}$$

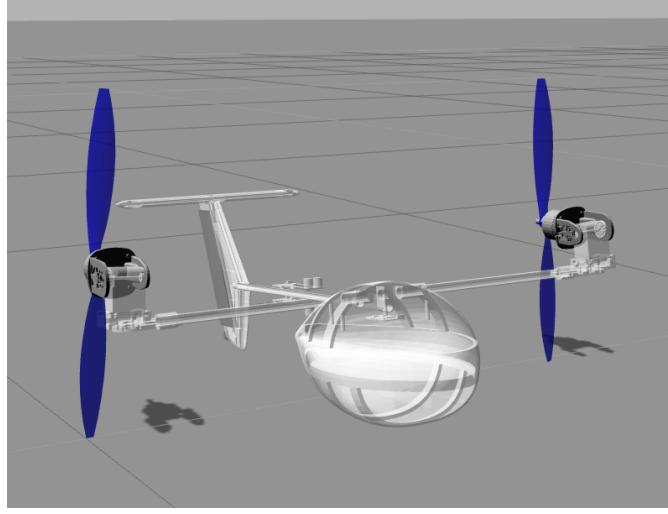


Figure A.10: UAV 3.0

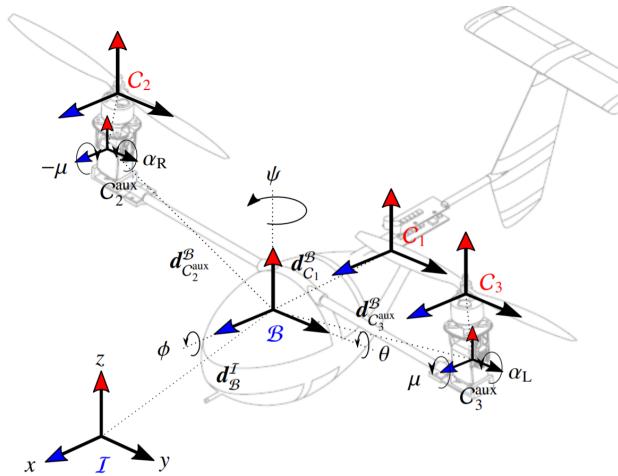


Figure A.11: UAV 3.0 Coordinate Frames

System Parameters		
$\mathbf{g}'_r$	$[0 \ 0 \ -9.8]$	[m/s <sup>2</sup> ]
$\mu$	4	[deg]
$k_t$	$1.7e-7$	
$b$	9.5e-6	
$m_{c1}, m_{c2}, m_{c3}$	{1.554, 0.084, 0.084}	[kg]
$\mathbf{d}_{c1}^B$	$[0.008 \ 0 \ -0.043]'$	[m]
$\mathbf{d}_{c2}^{B_{aux}}$	$[0.00059 \ -0.27 \ 0.066]'$	[m]
$\mathbf{d}_{c2}^{C_{aux}}$	$[0 \ 0 \ 0.05401]'$	[m]
$\mathbf{d}_{c3}^{B_{aux}}$	$[0.00059 \ 0.27 \ 0.066]'$	[m]
$\mathbf{d}_{c3}^{C_{aux}}$	$[0 \ 0 \ 0.05401]'$	[m]
$\mathbf{d}_f^B$	$[-0.005 \ 0 \ 0.0326]'$	[m]
$\mathbf{d}_h^B$	$[-0.422 \ 0 \ 0.11569]'$	[m]
$\mathbf{d}_v^B$	$[-0.3755 \ 0 \ 0.03]'$	[m]
$\mathbf{I}_{c1}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 47.883 & 0 & -3.632 \\ 0 & 22.752 & 0 \\ -3.632 & 0 & 60.623 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^{-3}$	[kg·m <sup>2</sup> ]
$\mathbf{I}_{c2}, \mathbf{I}_{c3}$	$diag[4.043, \ 3.84, \ 1.5867].10^{-5}$	[kg·m <sup>2</sup> ]
Elevator's and rudder's coefficients		
$c^e(\delta_e)$	2.3387 $\delta_e$	
$c^r(\delta_r)$	1.165 $\delta_r$	

Figure A.12: UAV 3.0 Parameters.

Where,  $(u, v, w)$  are the linear velocities of the *UAV body frame* with respect to the *inertial frame* expressed in the *UAV body frame*, and  $(p, q, r)$  are the angular velocities of the *UAV body frame* with respect to the *inertial frame* expressed in the *UAV body frame*.

Three plugins were used for the UAV 3.0 simulation: The "aerodinamica" plugin that applies the force

generated by the propellers and controls the aerodynamic forces, the "servo" plugin to actuate de servo motors, and the "statespace" plugin to access the UAV state vector needed for control. This plugins are further detailed in appendix B. In figure A.13, the rectangular shapes indicate the ros topics and the rounded shapes represent the ros nodes trigger in the simulation.

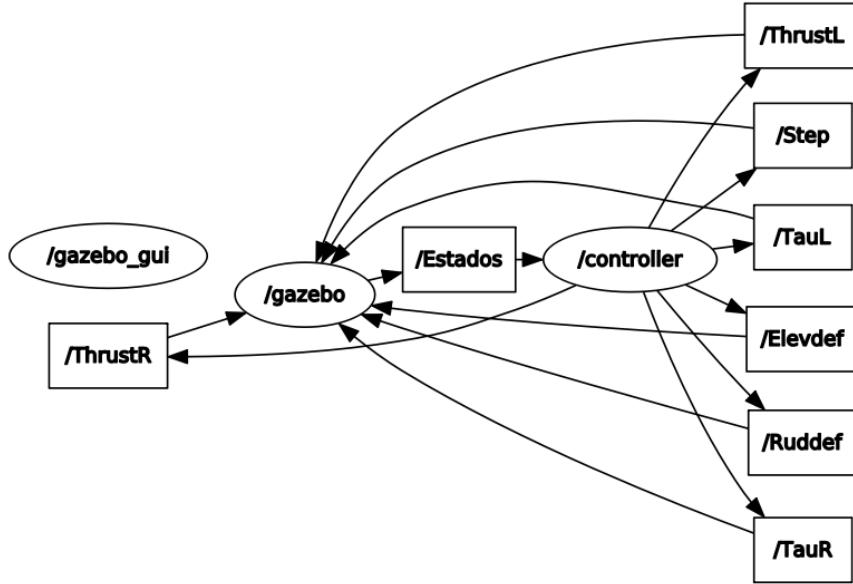


Figure A.13: UAV 3.0 Communication

#### A.2.4 UAV 4.0

The UAV 4.0 was developed in a partnership between the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Federal University of Santa Catarina and the University of Seville with the goal to develop a fast response UAV for search and rescue missions.

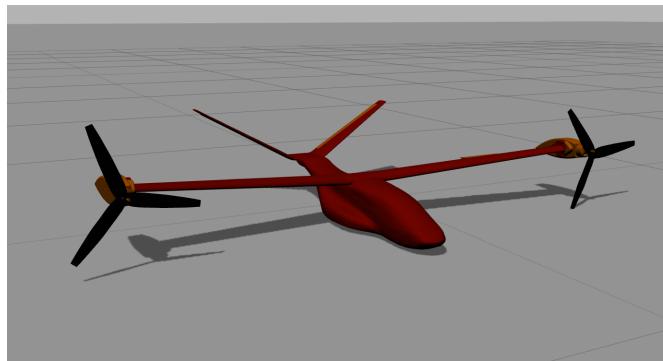


Figure A.14: VANT 4.0

The kinematic and dynamic model were developed using the coordinate frames shown in figure A.15 and the parameters in table A.16. More on the kinematic and dynamic models of UAV 4.0: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/337571676\\_Modelagem\\_e\\_Simulacao\\_de\\_um\\_VANT\\_Convertivel\\_Tilt-rotor](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/337571676_Modelagem_e_Simulacao_de_um_VANT_Convertivel_Tilt-rotor)

The control strategy for UAV 3.0 is a  $\mathcal{W}_\infty$  with the following state vector:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_s' & \dot{\tilde{q}}_c' & \tilde{q}_c' & \int_0^t \tilde{q}_c' dt \end{bmatrix}'$$

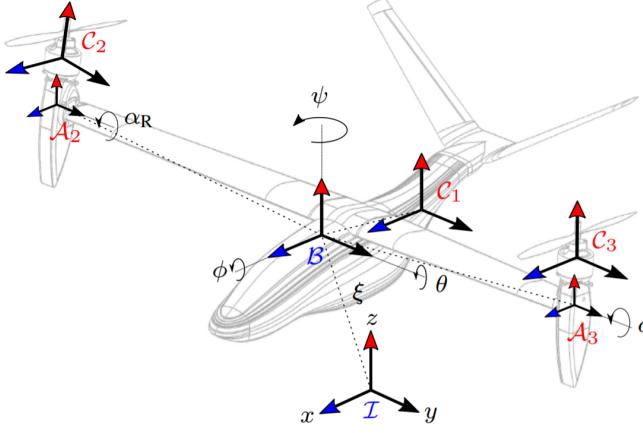


Figure A.15: UAV 4.0 Coordinate Frames.

Parâmetros do sistema		
$g'_r$	[0 0 -9.8]	[m/s <sup>2</sup> ]
$\beta$	3	[deg]
$\epsilon$	5	[deg]
$\mu$	30	[deg]
$k_\tau$	1.7e - 7	
$b$	9.5e-6	
$\nu$	0.005	
$m_{c_1}, m_{c_2}, m_{c_3}$	{7.0, 0.3, 0.3}	[N·m·s/rad]
$d_{c_1}^B$	[0.06684 0 0.005392]'	[m]
$d_{c_2}^B$	[0.078 0.6073 0.1235]'	[m]
$d_{c_3}^B$	[0 0 0.02]'	[m]
$d_{c_4}^B$	[0.078 -0.6073 0.1235]'	[m]
$d_{c_5}^B$	[0 0 0.02]'	[m]
$d_T^B$	[0.0512 0 0.1]'	[m]
$d_{W_R}^B$	[0.0512 -0.31 0.1]'	[m]
$d_{W_L}^B$	[0.0512 0.31 0.1]'	[m]
$d_{T_R}^B$	[-0.3967 -0.168 0.148]'	[m]
$d_{T_L}^B$	[-0.3967 0.168 0.148]'	[m]
$I_{c_1}$	[0.1489 0 -0.0189 0 0.1789 0 -0.0189 0 0.3011]	$\cdot 10^{-3}$ [kg·m <sup>2</sup> ]
$I_{c_2}, I_{c_3}$	$diag([0.7103 0.71045 0.21337]) \cdot 10^{-3}$	[kg·m <sup>2</sup> ]
$s_{F_{xz}}, s_{F_{xy}}$	{0.1892, 0.2911}	[m <sup>2</sup> ]
$s_{W_L}, s_{W_R}$	0.2250	[m <sup>2</sup> ]
$s_{T_L}, s_{T_R}$	0.0988	[m <sup>2</sup> ]
Coeficientes dos ailerons e ruddervators		
$c^{a_R, a_L}(\delta)$	0.51δ	
$c^{v_R, v_L}(\delta)$	0.85δ	

Figure A.16: UAV 4.0 Parameters.

Where,  $\mathbf{q}_s$  are the stabilized degrees of freedom,  $\mathbf{q}_c$  are the controled degrees of freedom, and  $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_c := \mathbf{q}_c - \mathbf{q}_{c_r}$ , where  $\mathbf{q}_{c_r}$  are the desired values of  $\mathbf{q}_c$ . Aside:

$$\mathbf{q}_s = [\alpha_R \quad \alpha_L \quad \phi \quad \theta]'$$

and

$$\mathbf{q}_c = [\psi \quad x \quad y \quad z]'$$

To simulate the UAV 4.0 six plugins are required: the "Aerodinâmica4dot0" plugin implements the aerodynamic forces, the "statespace" plugin to access the UAV state vector needed for control, the "servo" plugin to actuate the *ailers*, *rudders* and rotors, the "PathPlotter" plugin to visualize the performed trajectory in Rviz, "VisualPropellers" to visualize the propellers movement, and "DataSaveTiltRotor" to save data in ".txt" files at the *Matlab* directory. This plugins are further detailed in appendix B. In figure A.17, the rectangular shapes indicate the ros topics and the round shapes represent the ros nodes trigger in the simulation.

### A.2.5 Quadrotor

The Quadrotor study field in the UAV literature is a productive field for research. To take advantage of that fact, a UAV of type Quadrotor was implemented in the simulator.

The kinematic and dynamic model were developed using the coordinate frames shown in figure A.19 and the parameters in table A.20

The Quadrotor was implemented with an LQR control strategy with the following state vector:

$$\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{q} \quad \dot{\mathbf{q}}]'$$

Onde,

$$\mathbf{q} = [x \quad y \quad z \quad \phi \quad \theta \quad \psi]'$$

To simulate the Quadrotor four plugins are used: "QuadForces" to implement the forces on the four motors, "QuadData" to obtain the state vector needed for control, "PathPlotter" to visualize the Quadrotor trajectory on rviz, "VisualPropellers" to visualize the propellers movement. This plugins are further detailed in appendix B. In figure A.21, the rectangular shapes indicate the ros topics and the round shapes represent the ros nodes trigger in the simulation.

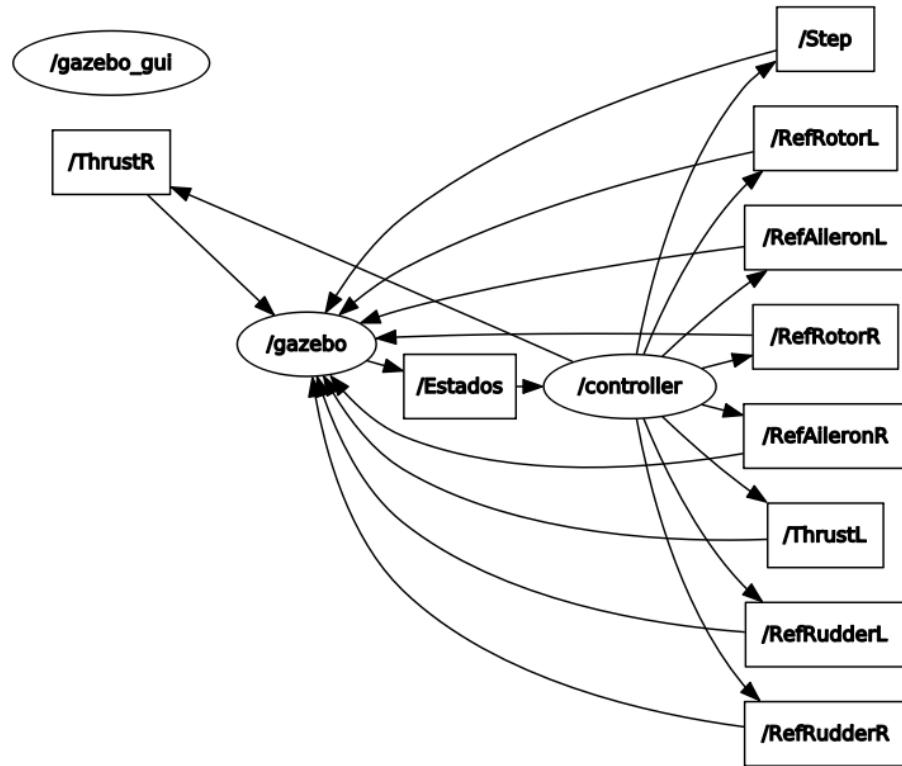


Figure A.17: UAV 4.0 Communication

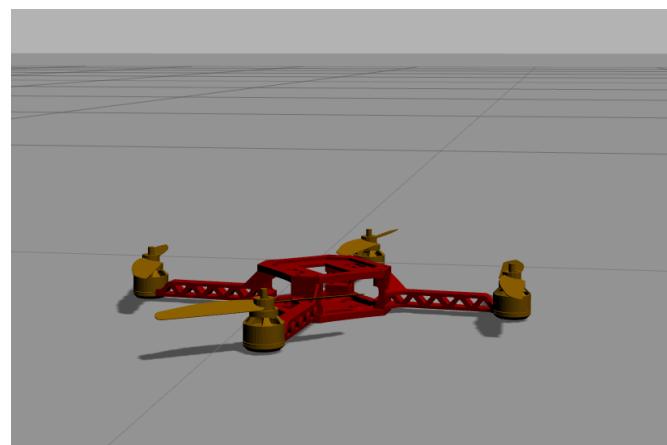


Figure A.18: Quadrotor

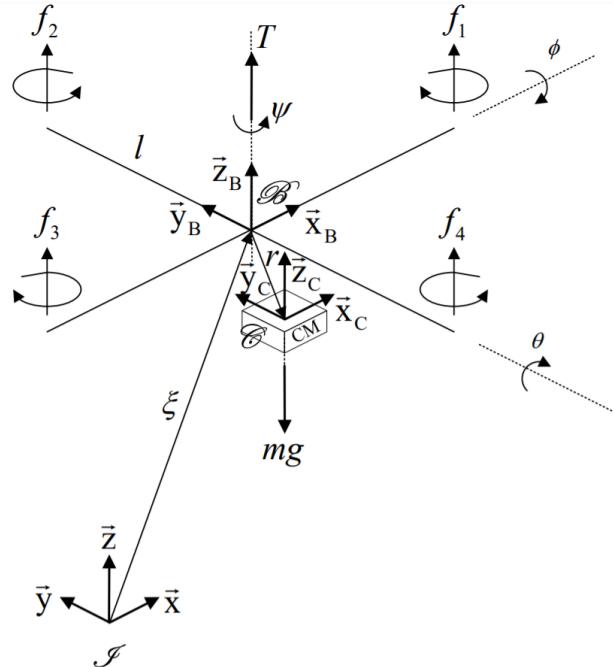


Figure A.19: Quadrotor Coordinate Frames.

Parameter Description	Parameter	Value
Mass of the <i>QuadRotor</i> helicopter	<i>m</i>	2.24 kg
Distance between the mass center and the rotors	<i>l</i>	0.332 m
Thrust coefficient of the rotors	<i>b</i>	$9.5e - 6 \text{ Ns}^2$
Drag coefficient of the rotors	<i>k<sub>T</sub></i>	$1.7e - 7 \text{ Nms}^2$
Gravitational acceleration	<i>g</i>	$9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$
Moment of inertia around the <i>x</i> -axis	<i>I<sub>xx</sub></i>	0.0363 Kg.m <sup>2</sup>
Moment of inertia around the <i>y</i> -axis	<i>I<sub>yy</sub></i>	0.0363 Kg.m <sup>2</sup>
Moment of inertia around	<i>I<sub>zz</sub></i>	0.0615 Kg.m <sup>2</sup>

Figure A.20: Quadrotor Parameters.

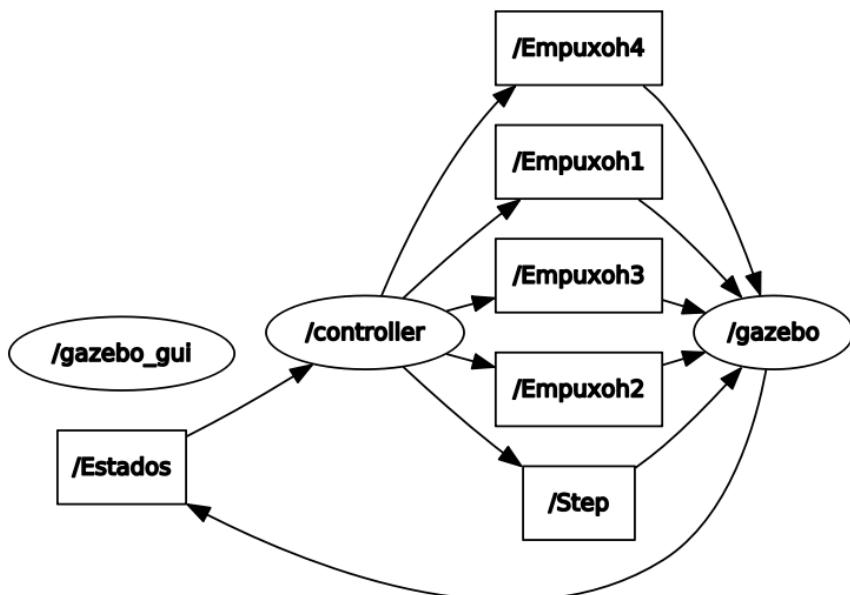


Figure A.21: Quadrotor Communication.

## Appendix B

# ProVANT Simulator's existing plugins

### B.1 Model plugins

This section shows the configuration of the model plugins which don't work with data exchange between Gazebo and ROS. The configuration information is shown in Tables B.1, B.2, B.3, B.4, B.5,B.6, B.7, B.8, B.9, B.10, B.11, B.12,B.13 and B.14.

Table B.1:  
Brushless motor plugin configuration

Description:	Simulates lift forces due to the two blades' rotation driven by a tilt-rotor's brushless motors	
File:	<code>libgazebo_ros_brushless_plugin.so</code>	
Configuration:	<code>&lt;topic_FR&gt;</code> <code>&lt;topic_FL&gt;</code> <code>&lt;LinkDir&gt;</code> <code>&lt;LinkEsq&gt;</code>	Topic with the value of the right blade's lift force Topic with the value of the left blade's lift force Link corresponding to the right blade Link corresponding to the left blade

Description:	Simulates de resulting forces generated by the Quadrotor propellers
File:	<code>libgazebo_ros_QadForces_plugin.so</code>
Configurations:	<code>&lt;topic_F1&gt; &lt;/topic_F1&gt;</code> name of the ros topic of the force applied in propeller 1 <code>&lt;topic_F2&gt; &lt;/topic_F2&gt;</code> name of the ros topic of the force applied in propeller 2 <code>&lt;topic_F3&gt; &lt;/topic_F3&gt;</code> name of the ros topic of the force applied in propeller 3 <code>&lt;topic_F4&gt; &lt;/topic_F4&gt;</code> name of the ros topic of the force applied in propeller 1 <code>&lt;body&gt; &lt;/body&gt;</code> name of the ros topic of the force applied in <code>&lt;DragCte&gt; &lt;/DragCte&gt;</code> Drag constant value

Table B.2: Brushless motor plugin configuration for the Quadrotor.

Table B.3:  
Servomotor plugin configuration

Description:	Simulates servomotors with torque or position operation modes
File:	<code>libgazebo_servo_motor_plugin.so</code>
Configuration:	<code>&lt;NameOfJoint&gt;</code> Joint to be controlled by the servomotor <code>&lt;TopicSubscriber&gt;</code> Topic with the reference values for the servomotor <code>&lt;TopicPublisher&gt;</code> Topic with the servo's sensor data (position and speed) <code>&lt;Modo&gt;</code> Servomotor's operation mode (options: <code>Torque</code> or <code>Posição</code> )

Table B.4:  
State space plugin configuration

Description:	Senses the tilt-rotor UAV's state vector $(x, y, z, \phi, \theta, \psi, \alpha_R, \alpha_L, \dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{z}, \dot{\phi}, \dot{\theta}, \dot{\psi}, \dot{\alpha}_R, \dot{\alpha}_L)$
File:	<code>libgazebo_AllData_plugin.so</code>
Configuration:	<code>&lt;NameOfTopic&gt;</code> Topic from which the user can obtain the information <code>&lt;NameOfJointR&gt;</code> Right servomotor's joint <code>&lt;NameOfJointL&gt;</code> Left servomotor's joint <code>&lt;bodyname&gt;</code> Link corresponding to the servomotor's main body

Table B.5:  
State space load plugin configuration

Description:	Senses the state vector for a tilt-rotor UAV with load transportation $(x, y, z, \phi, \theta, \psi, \alpha_R, \alpha_L, \lambda_x, \lambda_y, \dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{z}, \dot{\phi}, \dot{\theta}, \dot{\psi}, \dot{\alpha}_R, \dot{\alpha}_L, \dot{\lambda}_x, \dot{\lambda}_y)$
File:	<code>libgazebo_AllData2_plugin.so</code>
Configuration:	<code>&lt;NameOfTopic&gt;</code> Topic from which the user can obtain the information <code>&lt;NameOfJointR&gt;</code> Right servomotor's joint <code>&lt;NameOfJointL&gt;</code> Left servomotor's joint <code>&lt;NameOfJoint_X&gt;</code> Joint corresponding to the load's degree of freedom around the X axis <code>&lt;NameOfJoint_Y&gt;</code> Joint corresponding to the load's degree of freedom around the Y axis <code>&lt;bodyname&gt;</code> Link corresponding to the servomotor's main body

Description:	Senses the state vector for a Quadrotor UAV $(x, y, z, \phi, \theta, \psi, \dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{z}, \dot{\phi}, \dot{\theta}, \dot{\psi})$
File:	<code>libgazebo_QuadData_plugin.so</code>
Configuration:	<code>&lt;NameOfTopic&gt; &lt;/NameOfTopic&gt;</code> ros topic name to obtain information <code>&lt;bodyName&gt; &lt;/bodyName&gt;</code> link that the states are obtained with respect to

Table B.6: QuadData plugin configuration.

Description:	Plugin to apply aerodynamic forces in UAV 4.0
File:	libgazebo_ros_Aerodinamica4dot0.so
Configuration:	<p>&lt;topic_AileronR&gt; &lt;/topic_AileronR&gt; Right aileron ros topic name      &lt;topic_AileronL&gt; &lt;/topic_AileronL&gt; Left aileron ros topic name      &lt;topic_RudderR&gt; &lt;/topic_RudderR&gt; Right rudder ros topic name      &lt;topic_RudderL&gt; &lt;/topic_RudderL&gt; Left rudder ros topic name      &lt;topic_Fr&gt; &lt;/topic_Fr&gt; Ros topic name for the user obtain data from the right propeller      &lt;topic_Fl&gt; &lt;/topic_Fl&gt; Ros topic name for the user obtain data from the left propeller      &lt;MainBody&gt; &lt;/MainBody&gt; Main body link      &lt;LinkFr&gt; &lt;/LinkFr&gt; Link referent to the propellant group where the forces generated by the right propeller      &lt;LinkFl&gt; &lt;/LinkFl&gt; Link referent to the propellant group where the forces generated by the left propeller      &lt;LinkAileronR&gt; &lt;/LinkAileronR&gt; Right aileron link      &lt;LinkAileronL&gt; &lt;/LinkAileronL&gt; Left aileron link      &lt;LinkRudderR&gt; &lt;/LinkRudderR&gt; Right rudder link      &lt;LinkRudderL&gt; &lt;/LinkRudderL&gt; Left rudder link      &lt;CentroAerod_F&gt; &lt;/CentroAerod_F&gt; Fuselage aerodynamic center link      &lt;CentroAerod_Wr&gt; &lt;/CentroAerod_Wr&gt; Right wing aerodynamic center link      &lt;CentroAerod_Wl&gt; &lt;/CentroAerod_Wl&gt; Left wing aerodynamic center link      &lt;CentroAerod_RudR&gt; &lt;/CentroAerod_RudR&gt; Right rudder aerodynamic center link      &lt;CentroAerod_RudL&gt; &lt;/CentroAerod_RudL&gt; Left rudder aerodynamic center link</p>

Table B.7: Aerodynamic plugin configuration.

Table B.8:  
Temperature plugin configuration

Description:	Senses temperature and air pressure with noise	
File:	libgazebo_ros_temperature.so	
Configuration:	<p>&lt;Topic&gt;      &lt;TempOffset&gt;      Topic from which the user can obtain the information      Error offset for noisy temperature data</p> <p>&lt;TempStandardDeviation&gt;      &lt;BaroOffset&gt;      Error standard deviation for noisy temperature data      Error offset for noisy pressure data</p> <p>&lt;BaroStandardDeviation&gt;      &lt;maxtemp&gt;      &lt;mintemp&gt;      Maximum temperature value      Minimum temperature value</p> <p>&lt;maxbaro&gt;      &lt;minbaro&gt;      Maximum pressure value      Minimum pressure value</p> <p>&lt;Nbites&gt;      Number of bits used in the digitalization</p>	

Description:	Plugin to visualize the UAV trajectory in Rviz.
File:	libgazebo_ros_PathPlotter.so
Configuration:	<p>&lt;NameOfPathTopic&gt; &lt;/NameOfPathTopic&gt; Ros topic name for the UAV real trajectory data to be published      &lt;NameOfPathRefTopic&gt; &lt;/NameOfPathRefTopic&gt; Ros topic name for the UAV reference trajectory data to be published      &lt;NameOfMarkerTopic&gt; &lt;/NameOfMarkerTopic&gt; Ros topic name to publish the UAV visual data to Rviz      &lt;bodyName&gt; &lt;/bodyName&gt; main body link used as reference to obtain necessary data      &lt;uav&gt; &lt;/uav&gt; Desired UAV</p>

Table B.9: PathPlotter plugin configuration.

Description:	plugin to allow propellers motion
File:	libgazebo_ros_VisualPropellers.so
Configuration:	<p style="color: blue; margin-left: 20px;"> <b>&lt;Propeller1&gt;</b> <b>&lt;/Propeller1&gt;</b> Propeller 1 joint  <b>&lt;Propeller2&gt;</b> <b>&lt;/Propeller2&gt;</b> Propeller 2 joint  <b>&lt;Propellers_Velocity&gt;</b> <b>&lt;/Propellers_Velocity&gt;</b> Desired propeller velocity value         </p>

Table B.10: VisualPropellers plugin configuration.

Table B.11:  
UniversalJointSensor plugin configuration

Description:	Senses all the data Gazebo provides for a joint (angle, angular velocity and torque)	
File:	<b>libgazebo_ros_universaljoint.so</b>	
Configuration:	<p style="color: blue; margin-left: 20px;"> <b>&lt;NameOfTopic&gt;</b>  <b>&lt;NameOfJoint&gt;</b>  <b>&lt;Axis&gt;</b>  <b>&lt;Axis2&gt;*</b> </p>	Topic from which the user can obtain the information Joint to be sensed Joint's (first) rotation axis Joint's second rotation axis (*used only for joints with two degrees of freedom)

Table B.12:  
UniversalLinkSensor plugin configuration

Description:	Senses all data Gazebo provides for a link
File:	<b>libgazebo_ros_universallink.so</b>
Configuration:	<p style="color: blue; margin-left: 20px;"> <b>&lt;NameOfTopic&gt;</b>  <b>&lt;NameOfLink&gt;</b> </p> Topic from which the user can obtain the information Link to be sensed

Table B.13:  
Order in which data is presented in plugin UniversalLinkSensor

0	Relative pose in X
1	Relative pose in Y
2	Relative pose in Z
3	Relative pose in $\phi$
4	Relative pose in $\theta$
5	Relative pose in $\psi$
6	Relative speed in X
7	Relative speed in Y
8	Relative speed in Z
9	Relative linear acceleration in X
10	Relative linear acceleration in Y
11	Relative linear acceleration in Z
12	Relative force in X
13	Relative force in Y
14	Relative force in Z
15	Relative angular speed in X
16	Relative angular speed in Y
17	Relative angular speed in Z
18	Relative angular acceleration in X
19	Relative angular acceleration in Y
20	Relative angular acceleration in Z
21	Relative mechanical torque in X
22	Relative mechanical torque in Y
23	Relative mechanical torque in Z
24	Global pose in X
25	Global pose in Y
26	Global pose in Z
27	Global pose in $\phi$
28	Global pose in $\theta$
29	Global pose in $\psi$
30	Global speed in X
31	Global speed in Y
32	Global speed in Z
33	Global linear acceleration in X
34	Global linear acceleration in Y
35	Global linear acceleration in Z
36	Global force in X
37	Global force in Y
38	Global force in Z
39	Global angular speed in X
40	Global angular speed in Y
41	Global angular speed in Z
42	Global angular acceleration in X
43	Global angular acceleration in Y
44	Global angular acceleration in Z
45	Global mechanical torque in X
46	Global mechanical torque in Y
47	Global mechanical torque in Z
48	Center of gravity's global linear speed in X
49	Center of gravity's global linear speed in Y
50	Center of gravity's global linear speed in Z
51	Center of gravity's global linear pose in X
52	Center of gravity's global linear pose in Y
53	Center of gravity's global linear pose in Z

Description:	PLugin to save data at the Matlab directory.
File:	libgazebo_ros_DataSaveTiltRotor.so
Configuration:	<pre>&lt;topic_Fr&gt; &lt;/topic_Fr&gt; Ros topic name for right propeller force data &lt;topic_Fl&gt; &lt;/topic_Fl&gt;Ros topic name for left propeller force data &lt;topic_DAr&gt; &lt;/topic_DAr&gt;Ros topic name for right aileron deflexion data &lt;topic_DAl&gt; &lt;/topic_DAl&gt;Ros topic name for left aileron deflexion data &lt;topic_DRr&gt; &lt;/topic_DRr&gt;Ros topic name for right rudder deflexion data &lt;topic_DRl&gt; &lt;/topic_DRl&gt;Ros topic name for left rudder deflexion data &lt;Fr_sat&gt; &lt;/Fr_sat&gt;Right propeller force saturation value &lt;Fl_sat&gt; &lt;/Fl_sat&gt;Left propeller force saturation value &lt;DAr_satl&gt; &lt;/DAr_satl&gt;Right rudder deflexion saturation value &lt;DAL_satl&gt; &lt;/DAL_satl&gt;Left aileron deflexion saturation value &lt;DRr_satl&gt; &lt;/DRr_satl&gt;Right rudder deflexion saturation value &lt;DRl_satl&gt; &lt;/DRl_satl&gt;Left rudder deflexion saturation value</pre>

Table B.14: DataSaveTiltRotor plugin configuration.

## B.2 Model plugins used along sensor plugins

This section shows the configuration of the model plugins which work with data exchange between Gazebo and ROS. The configuration information is shown in Tables B.15, B.16, B.17 and B.18.

Table B.15:  
Model plugin for transmitting GPS data from Gazebo topics to ROS topics

Description:	Transmits GPS sensor data to ROS
File:	libgazebo_ros_gps.so
Configuration:	<pre>&lt;gazebotopic&gt;   &lt;rostopic&gt;     &lt;link&gt;</pre> Gazebo topic where the GPS publishes its data ROS topic to be read by the controller Link to which the GPS is attached

Table B.16:  
Model plugin for transmitting IMU data from Gazebo topics to ROS topics

Description:	Transmits IMU data to ROS
File:	libgazebo_ros_imu.so
Configuration:	<pre>&lt;gazebotopic&gt;   &lt;rostopic&gt;     &lt;link&gt;</pre> Gazebo topic where the IMU publishes its data ROS topic to be read by the controller Link to which the IMU is attached

Table B.17:  
Model plugin for transmitting sonar data from Gazebo topics to ROS topics

Description:	Transmits sonar data to ROS
File:	libgazebo_ros_sonar.so
Configuration:	<pre>&lt;gazebotopic&gt;   &lt;rostopic&gt;     &lt;link&gt;</pre> Gazebo topic where the sonar publishes its data ROS topic to be read by the controller Link to which the sonar is attached

Table B.18:  
Model plugin for transmitting magnetometer data from Gazebo topics to ROS topics

Description:	Transmits magnetometer data to ROS	
File:	<code>libgazebo_ros_magnetometro.so</code>	
Configuration:	<code>&lt;gazebotopic&gt;</code> <code>&lt;rostopic&gt;</code> <code>&lt;link&gt;</code>	Gazebo topic where the magnetometer publishes its data ROS topic to be read by the controller Link to which the magnetometer is attached



# Appendix C

## CMakeLists.txt

This section was extracted from <http://wiki.ros.org/catkin/CMakeLists.txt> on August 08, 2017. Visit it for further information.

### C.1 Overview and structure of file CMakeLists.txt

The file CMakeLists.txt is the input to the CMake build system for building software packages. This file **must follow the following format and order**.

1. Required CMake Version (`cmake_minimum_required`)
2. Package Name (`project()`)
3. Find other CMake/Catkin packages needed for build (`find_package()`)
4. Enable Python module support (`catkin_python_setup()`)
5. Message/Service/Action Generators (`add_message_files()`, `add_service_files()`, `add_action_files()`)
6. Invoke message/service/action generation (`generate_messages()`)
7. Specify package build info export (`catkin_package()`)
8. Libraries/Executables to build (`add_library()`/`add_executable()`/`target_link_libraries()`)
9. Tests to build (`catkin_add_gtest()`)
10. Install rules (`install()`)

### C.2 CMake Version

Every catkin CMakeLists.txt file must start with the required version of CMake needed. Catkin requires version 2.8.3 or higher.

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 2.8.3)
```

### C.3 Package name

The next item is the name of the ROS package. In the following example, the package is called *robot\_brain*.

```
project(robot_brain)
```

Note: In CMake you can reference the project name anywhere later in the CMake script by using the variable  `${PROJECT_NAME}`.

### C.4 Finding dependent CMake packages

We need to then specify which other CMake packages that need to be found to build our project using the CMake `find_package` function. There is always at least one dependency on catkin:

---

```
find_package(catkin REQUIRED)
```

If your project depends on other wet packages, they are automatically turned into components (in terms of CMake) of catkin. Instead of using `find_package` on those packages, if you specify them as components, it will make life easier. For example, if you use the package `nodelet`.

```
find_package(catkin REQUIRED COMPONENTS nodelet)
```

Note: You should only `find_package` components for which you want build flags. You should not add runtime dependencies.

#### C.4.1 Command `find_package()`

If a package is found by CMake through `find_package`, it results in the creation of several CMake environment variables that give information about the found package. These environment variables can be utilized later in the CMake script. The environment variables describe where the packages exported header files are, where source files are, what libraries the package depends on, and the paths of those libraries. The names always follow the convention of `<PACKAGE NAME>_<PROPERTY>`:

- `<NAME>_FOUND`: Set to true if the library is found, otherwise false
- `<NAME>_INCLUDE_DIRS` or `<NAME>_INCLUDES`: The include paths exported by the package
- `<NAME>_LIBRARIES` or `<NAME>_LIBS`: The libraries exported by the package
- `<NAME>_DEFINITIONS`: Definitions exported by the package

#### C.4.2 Why are catkin packages specified as components?

Catkin packages are not really components of catkin. Rather the components feature of CMake was utilized in the design of catkin to save you significant typing time.

For catkin packages, if you `find_package` them as components of catkin, this is advantageous as a single set of environment variables is created with the `catkin_` prefix. For example, let us say you were using the package `nodelet` in your code. The recommended way of finding the package is:

```
find_package(catkin REQUIRED COMPONENTS nodelet)
```

This means that the include paths, libraries, etc exported by `nodelet` are also appended to the `catkin_` variables. For example, `catkin_INCLUDE_DIRS` contains the include paths not only for catkin but also for `nodelet` as well! This will come in handy later.

We could alternatively `find_package nodelet` on its own:

```
find_package(nodelet)
```

This means the `nodelet` paths, libraries and so on would not be added to `catkin_` variables.

This results in `nodelet_INCLUDE_DIRS`, `nodelet_LIBRARIES`, and so on. The same variables are also created using

```
find_package(catkin REQUIRED COMPONENTS nodelet)
```

#### C.4.3 Boost

If using C++ and Boost, you need to invoke `find_package()` on Boost and specify which aspects of Boost you are using as components. Boost is a set of libraries for C++ which offers support for tasks and structures such as linear algebra, pseudorandom number generation, multithreading, image processing, regular expressions and unit testing. For example, if you wanted to use Boost threads, you would say:

```
find_package(Boost REQUIRED COMPONENTS thread)
```

## C.5 catkin\_package()

Command `catkin_package()` specifies catkin-specific information for the compiler.

This function must be called before declaring any targets with `add_library()` or `add_executable()`. The function has 5 optional arguments:

- `INCLUDE_DIRS`: The exported include paths for the package
- `LIBRARIES`: The exported libraries from the project
- `CATKIN_DEPENDS`: Other catkin projects that this project depends on
- `DEPENDS`: Non-catkin projects that this project depends on
- `CFG\EXTRAS`: Additional configuration options

As an example:

```
catkin_package(INCLUDE_DIRS include
               LIBRARIES ${PROJECT_NAME}
               CATKIN_DEPENDS roscpp nodelet
               DEPENDS eigen opencv)
```

This indicates that the folder `include/` within the package folder is where exported headers go. The CMake environment variable  `${PROJECT_NAME}` evaluates to whatever you passed to the `project()` function earlier, in this case it will be `robot_brain`. `roscpp` and `nodelet` are packages that need to be present to build/run this package, and `eigen` and `opencv` are system dependencies that need to be present to build/run this package.

## C.6 Specifying build targets

Build targets can take many forms, but usually they represent one of two possibilities:

Executable Target: programs we can run

Library Target: libraries that can be used by executable targets at build and/or runtime

### C.6.1 Target naming

It is very important to note that the names of build targets in catkin must be unique regardless of the folders they are built/installed to. This is a requirement of CMake. However, unique names of targets are only necessary internally to CMake. One can have a target renamed to something else using the `set_target_properties()` function.

Example:

```
set_target_properties(rviz_image_view
                      PROPERTIES OUTPUT_NAME image_view
                      PREFIX "")
```

This will change the name of the target `rviz_image_view` to `image_view` in the build and install outputs.

### C.6.2 Custom output directory

While the default output directory for executables and libraries is usually set to a reasonable value it must be customized in certain cases, i.e. a library containing Python bindings must be placed in a different folder to be importable in Python.

Example:

```
set_target_properties(python_module_library
                      PROPERTIES LIBRARY_OUTPUT_DIRECTORY ${CATKIN_DEVEL_PREFIX}${CATKIN_PACKAGE_PYTHON_DESTINATION})
```

### C.6.3 Include paths and library paths

Prior to specifying targets, you need to specify where resources can be found for said targets, specifically header files and libraries

```
Include paths
Library paths
include_directories(<dir1>, <dir2>, ..., <dirN>)
link_directories(<dir1>, <dir2>, ..., <dirN>)
```

#### a) include\_directories()

The argument to `include_directories` should be the \*\_INCLUDE\_DIRS variables generated by your `find_package` calls and any additional directories that need to be included. If you are using catkin and Boost, your `include_directories()` call should look like:

```
include_directories(include ${Boost_INCLUDE_DIRS} ${catkin_INCLUDE_DIRS})
```

The first argument `include` indicates that the `include/` directory within the package is also part of the path.

#### b) link\_directories()

The CMake `link_directories()` function can be used to add additional library paths, however, this is not recommended. All catkin and CMake packages automatically have their link information added when they are `find_packaged`. Simply link against the libraries in `target_link_libraries()`.

Example:

```
link_directories(~/my_libs)
```

### C.6.4 Executable targets

To specify an executable target that must be built, we must use the `add_executable()` CMake function.

```
add_executable(myProgram src/main.cpp src/some_file.cpp src/another_file.cpp)
```

This will build a target executable called `myProgram` which is built from 3 source files: `src/main.cpp`, `src/some_file.cpp` and `src/another_file.cpp`.

### C.6.5 Library targets

The `add_library()` CMake function is used to specify libraries to build. By default catkin builds shared libraries.

```
add_library(${PROJECT_NAME} ${${PROJECT_NAME}_SRCS})
```

### C.6.6 target\_link\_libraries

Use the `target_link_libraries()` function to specify which libraries an executable target links against. This is done typically after an `add_executable()` call. Add  `${catkin_LIBRARIES}` if ros is not found.

Syntax:

```
target_link_libraries(<executableTargetName>, <lib1>, <lib2>, ... <libN>)
```

Example:

```
add_executable(foo src/foo.cpp)
add_library(moo src/moo.cpp)
target_link_libraries(foo moo) -- This links foo against libmoo.so
```

Note that there is no need to use `ink_directories()` in most use cases as that information is automatically pulled in via `find_package()`.

## C.7 Messages, services, and action targetss

Message (.msg), service (.srv) and action (.action) files in ROS require a special preprocessor build step before being built and used by ROS packages. The point of these macros is to generate programming language-specific files so that one can utilize messages, services, and actions in their programming language of choice. The build system will generate bindings using all available generators (e.g. genCPP, genPY, genLISP, etc).

There are three macros provided to handle messages, services, and actions respectively:

```
add_message_files
add_service_files
add_action_files
```

These macros must then be followed by a call to the macro that invokes generation:

```
generate_messages()
```

### Important prerequisites/constraints

These macros must come textbf{before} the `catkin_package()` macro in order for generation to work correctly.

```
find_package(catkin REQUIRED COMPONENTS ...)
add_message_files(...)
add_service_files(...)
add_action_files(...)
generate_messages(...)
catkin_package(...)
...
```

Your `catkin_package()` macro must have a `CATKIN_DEPENDS` dependency on `message_runtime`.

```
catkin_package(
...
CATKIN_DEPENDS message_runtime ...
...)
```

You must use `find_package()` for the package `message_generation`, either alone or as a component of `catkin`:

```
find_package(catkin REQUIRED COMPONENTS message_generation)
```

Your `package.xml` file must contain a build dependency on `message_generation` and a runtime dependency on `message_runtime`. This is not necessary if the dependencies are pulled in transitively from other packages.

If you have a target which (even transitively) depends on some other target that needs messages/services/actions to be built, you need to add an explicit dependency on target `catkin_EXPORTED_TARGETS`, so that they are built in the correct order. This case applies almost always, unless your package really doesn't use any part of ROS. Unfortunately, this dependency cannot be automatically propagated. (`some_target` is the name of the target set by `add_executable()`):

```
add_dependencies(some_target ${catkin_EXPORTED_TARGETS})
```

If you have a package which builds messages and/or services as well as executables that use these, you need to create an explicit dependency on the automatically-generated message target so that they are built in the correct order. (`some_target` is the name of the target set by `add_executable()`):

```
add_dependencies(some_target ${${PROJECT_NAME}_EXPORTED_TARGETS})
```

If your package satisfies both of the above conditions, you need to add both dependencies, i.e.:

```
add_dependencies(some_target ${${PROJECT_NAME}_EXPORTED_TARGETS} ${catkin_EXPORTED_TARGETS})
```

### C.7.1 Example

If your package has two messages in a directory called `msg` named `MyMessage1.msg` and `MyMessage2.msg` and these messages depend on `std_msgs` and `sensor_msgs`, a service in a directory called `srv` named `MyService.srv`, defines executable `message_program` that uses these messages and service, and an executable called `does_not_use_local_messages` which uses some parts of ROS, but not the messages/service defined in this package, then you will need the following in your `CMakeLists.txt`:

```
# Get the information about this package's buildtime dependencies
find_package(catkin REQUIRED
    COMPONENTS message_generation std_msgs sensor_msgs)

# Declare the message files to be built
add_message_files(FILES
    MyMessage1.msg
    MyMessage2.msg
)

# Declare the service files to be built
add_service_files(FILES
    MyService.srv
)

# Actually generate the language-specific message and service files
generate_messages(DEPENDENCIES std_msgs sensor_msgs)

# Declare that this catkin package's runtime dependencies
catkin_package(
    CATKIN_DEPENDS message_runtime std_msgs sensor_msgs
)

# define executable using MyMessage1 etc.
add_executable(message_program src/main.cpp)
add_dependencies(message_program ${${PROJECT_NAME}_EXPORTED_TARGETS} ${catkin_EXPORTED_TARGETS})

# define executable not using any messages/services provided by this package
add_executable(does_not_use_local_messages_program src/main.cpp)
add_dependencies(does_not_use_local_messages_program ${catkin_EXPORTED_TARGETS})
```

If, additionally, you want to build actionlib actions, and have an action specification file called `MyAction.action` in the `action` directory, you must add `actionlib_msgs` to the list of components which are `find_package`d with catkin and add the following call before the call to `generate_messages(...)`:

```
add_action_files(FILES
    MyAction.action
)
```

Furthermore the package must have a build dependency on `actionlib_msgs`.

## C.8 Enabling Python module support

If your ROS package provides some Python modules, you should create a `setup.py` file and call

```
catkin_python_setup()
```

before the call to `generate_messages()` and `catkin_package()`.

## C.9 Unit tests

There is a catkin-specific macro for handling gtest-based unit tests called `catkin_add_gtest()`.

```
catkin_add_gtest(myUnitTest test/utest.cpp)
```

## C.10 Optional step: specifying installable targets

After build time, targets are placed into the devel space of the catkin workspace. However, often we want to install targets to the system so that they can be used by others or to a local folder to test a system-level installation. In other words, if you want to be able to do a "make install" of your code, you need to specify where targets should end up.

This is done using the CMake `install()` function which takes as arguments:

```
TARGETS: Which targets to install
ARCHIVEDESTINATION : Static libraries and DLL (Windows) .lib stubs
LIBRARYDESTINATION : Non-DLL shared libraries and modules
RUNTIMEDESTINATION : Executable targets and DLL (Windows) style shared libraries
```

Take as an example:

```
install(TARGETS ${PROJECT_NAME}
        ARCHIVE DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_LIB_DESTINATION}
        LIBRARY DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_LIB_DESTINATION}
        RUNTIME DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_BIN_DESTINATION}
    )
```

Besides these standard destination some files must be installed to special folders, i.e. a library containing Python bindings must be installed to a different folder to be importable in Python:

```
install(TARGETS python_module_library
        ARCHIVE DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_PYTHON_DESTINATION}
        LIBRARY DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_PYTHON_DESTINATION}
    )
```

### C.10.1 Installing Python Executable Scripts

For Python code, the install rule looks different as there is no use of the `add_library()` and `add_executable()` functions so as for CMake to determine which files are targets and what type of targets they are. Instead, use the following in your `CMakeLists.txt` file:

```
catkin_install_python(PROGRAMS scripts/myscript
                      DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_BIN_DESTINATION})
```

Detailed information about installing python scripts and modules, as well as best practices for folder layout can be found in the [catkin manual](#).

If you only install Python scripts and do not provide any modules, you need neither to create the above mentioned `setup.py` file, nor to call `catkin_python_setup()`.

### C.10.2 Installing header files

Header files must also be installed to the `include` folder, This is often done by installing the files of an entire folder (optionally filtered by filename patterns and excluding SVN subfolders). This can be done with an install rule that looks as follows:

```
install(DIRECTORY include/${PROJECT_NAME}/
        DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_INCLUDE_DESTINATION}
        PATTERN ".svn" EXCLUDE
    )
```

or if the subfolder under include does not match the package name:

```
install(DIRECTORY include/
  DESTINATION ${CATKIN_GLOBAL_INCLUDE_DESTINATION}
  PATTERN ".svn" EXCLUDE
)
```

#### Installing roslaunch files or other resources

Other resources like launchfiles can be installed to \${CATKIN\_PACKAGE\_SHARE\_DESTINATION}:

```
install(DIRECTORY launch/
  DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_SHARE_DESTINATION}/launch
  PATTERN ".svn" EXCLUDE)
```

# Appendix D

## package.xml

This section was extracted from <http://wiki.ros.org/catkin/package.xml> on August 25,2017. Visit it for further information.

### D.1 Overview

The package manifest is an XML file called `package.xml` that must be included with any catkin-compliant package's root folder. This file defines properties about the package such as the package name, version numbers, authors, maintainers, and dependencies on other catkin packages.

Your system package dependencies are declared in `package.xml`. If they are missing or incorrect, you may be able to build from source and run tests on your own machine, but your package will not work correctly when released to the ROS community. Others depend on this information to install the software they need for using your package.

### D.2 Format 2 (recommended)

This is the recommended format for new packages. It is also recommended that older format 1 packages be migrated to format 2. For instructions on migrating from format 1 to format 2, see [Migrating from Format 1 to Format 2](#) in the catkin API docs.

The full documentation for format 2 can be found in the [catkin API docs](#).

#### D.2.1 Basic structure

Each `package.xml` file has the `<package>` tag as the root tag in the document.

```
<package format="2">  
  </package>
```

#### D.2.2 Required tags

There is a minimal set of tags that need to be nested within the `<package>` tag to make the package manifest complete.

- `<name>`: The name of the package
- `<version>`: The version number of the package (required to be 3 dot-separated integers)
- `<description>`: A description of the package contents
- `<maintainer>`: The name of the person(s) that is/are maintaining the package
- `<license>`: The software license(s) (e.g. GPL, BSD, ASL) under which the code is released

As an example, here is package manifest for a fictional package called `foo_core`.

```

<package format="2">
  <name>foo_core</name>
  <version>1.2.4</version>
  <description>
    This package provides foo capability.
  </description>
  <maintainer email="ivana@osrf.org">Ivana Bildbotz</maintainer>
  <license>BSD</license>
</package>

```

### D.2.3 Dependencies

The package manifest with minimal tags does not specify any dependencies on other packages. Packages can have six types of dependencies:

- **Build Dependencies** specify which packages are needed to build this package. This is the case when any file from these packages is required at build time. This can be including headers from these packages at compilation time, linking against libraries from these packages or requiring any other resource at build time (especially when these packages are `find_package`ed in CMake). In a cross-compilation scenario build dependencies are for the targeted architecture.
- **Build Export Dependencies** specify which packages are needed to build libraries against this package. This is the case when you transitively include their headers in public headers in this package (especially when these packages are declared as (`CATKIN_`)`DEPENDS` in `catkin_package()` in CMake).
- **Execution Dependencies** specify which packages are needed to run code in this package. This is the case when you depend on shared libraries in this package (especially when these packages are declared as (`CATKIN_`)`DEPENDS` in `catkin_package()` in CMake).
- **Test Dependencies** specify only additional dependencies for unit tests. They should never duplicate any dependencies already mentioned as build or run dependencies.
- **Build Tool Dependencies** specify build system tools which this package needs to build itself. Typically the only build tool needed is catkin. In a cross-compilation scenario build tool dependencies are for the architecture on which the compilation is performed.
- **Documentation Tool Dependencies** specify documentation tools which this package needs to generate documentation.

These six types of dependencies are specified using the following respective tags:

`<depend>` specifies that a dependency is a build, export, and execution dependency. This is the most commonly used dependency tag.

```

<buildtool_depend>
<build_depend>
<build_export_depend>
<exec_depend>
<test_depend>
<doc_depend>

```

All packages have at least one dependency, a build tool dependency on catkin as the following example shows.

```

<package>
  <name>foo_core</name>
  <version>1.2.4</version>
  <description>
    This package provides foo capability.
  </description>
  <maintainer email="ivana@osrf.org">Ivana Bildbotz</maintainer>
  <license>BSD</license>
  <buildtool_depend>catkin</buildtool_depend>
</package>

```

A more realistic example that specifies build, exec, test, and doc dependencies could look as follows.

```
<package>
  <name>foo_core</name>
  <version>1.2.4</version>
  <description>
    This package provides foo capability.
  </description>
  <maintainer email="ivana@willowgarage.com">Ivana Bildbotz</maintainer>
  <license>BSD</license>
  <url>http://ros.org/wiki/foo_core</url>
  <author>Ivana Bildbotz</author>
  <buildtool_depend>catkin</buildtool_depend>
  <depend>roscpp</depend>
  <depend>std_msgs</depend>
  <build_depend>message_generation</build_depend>
  <exec_depend>message_runtime</exec_depend>
  <exec_depend>rospy</exec_depend>
  <test_depend>python-mock</test_depend>
  <doc_depend>doxygen</doc_depend>
</package>
```

#### D.2.4 Metapackages

It is often convenient to group multiple packages as a single logical package. This can be accomplished through metapackages. A metapackage is a normal package with the following export tag in the `package.xml`:

```
<export>
  <metapackage />
</export>
```

Other than a required `<buildtool_depends>` dependency on catkin, metapackages can only have execution dependencies on packages of which they group.

Additionally a metapackage has a required, boilerplate `CMakeLists.txt` file:

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 2.8.3)
project(<PACKAGE_NAME>)
find_package(catkin REQUIRED)
catkin_metapackage()
```

Note: replace `<PACKAGE_NAME>` with the name of the metapackage.

#### D.2.5 Additional tags

`<url>`: A URL for information on the package, typically a wiki page on ros.org.

`<author>`: The author(s) of the package

### D.3 Format 1 (legacy))

Older catkin packages use format 1. If the `<package>` tag has no `format` attribute, it is a format 1 package. Use format 2 for new packages.

The format of `package.xml` is straightforward.

### D.3.1 Basic structure

Each package.xml file has the <package> tag as the root tag in the document.

```
<package>
</package>
```

### D.3.2 Required tags

There are a minimal set of tags that need to be nested within the <package> tag to make the package manifest complete.

- <name>: The name of the package
- <name>: The version number of the package (required to be 3 dot-separated integers)
- <name>: A description of the package contents
- <name>: The name of the person(s) that is/are maintaining the package
- <name>: The software license(s) (e.g. GPL, BSD, ASL) under which the code is released

As an example, here is package manifest for a fictional package called `foo_core`.

```
<package>
  <name>foo_core</name>
  <version>1.2.4</version>
  <description>
    This package provides foo capability.
  </description>
  <maintainer email="ivana@willowgarage.com">Ivana Bildbotz</maintainer>
  <license>BSD</license>
</package>
```

### D.3.3 Build, run, and test dependencies

O manifesto do pacote com tags mínimas não especifica nenhuma dependência em outros pacotes. Pacotes podem ter quatro tipos de dependências:

- **Build Dependencies** specify build system tools which this package needs to build itself. Typically the only build tool needed is catkin. In a cross-compilation scenario build tool dependencies are for the architecture on which the compilation is performed.
- **Build Export Dependencies** specify which packages are needed to build this package. This is the case when any file from these packages is required at build time. This can be including headers from these packages at compilation time, linking against libraries from these packages or requiring any other resource at build time (especially when these packages are `find_package`ed in CMake). In a cross-compilation scenario build dependencies are for the targeted architecture.
- **Execution Dependencies** specify which packages are needed to run code in this package, or build libraries against this package. This is the case when you depend on shared libraries or transitively include their headers in public headers in this package (especially when these packages are declared as (`CATKIN_`)`DEPENDS` in `catkin_package()` in CMake).
- **Test Dependencies** specify only additional dependencies for unit tests. They should never duplicate any dependencies already mentioned as build or run dependencies.

These four types of dependencies are specified using the following respective tags:

- <buildtool\_depend>
- <build\_depend>
- <run\_depend>
- <test\_depend>

All packages have at least one dependency, a build tool dependency on catkin as the following example shows.

```
<package>
  <name>foo_core</name>
  <version>1.2.4</version>
  <description>
    This package provides foo capability.
  </description>
  <maintainer email="ivana@willowgarage.com">Ivana Bildbotz</maintainer>
  <license>BSD</license>
  <buildtool_depend>catkin</buildtool_depend>
</package>
```

A more realistic example that specifies build, runtime, and test dependencies could look as follows.

```
<package>
  <name>foo_core</name>
  <version>1.2.4</version>
  <description>
    This package provides foo capability.
  </description>
  <maintainer email="ivana@willowgarage.com">Ivana Bildbotz</maintainer>
  <license>BSD</license>
  <url>http://ros.org/wiki/foo_core</url>
  <author>Ivana Bildbotz</author>
  <buildtool_depend>catkin</buildtool_depend>
  <build_depend>message_generation</build_depend>
  <build_depend>roscpp</build_depend>
  <build_depend>std_msgs</build_depend>
  <run_depend>message_runtime</run_depend>
  <run_depend>roscpp</run_depend>
  <run_depend>rospy</run_depend>
  <run_depend>std_msgs</run_depend>
  <test_depend>python-mock</test_depend>
</package>
```

#### D.3.4 Metapackages

It is often convenient to group multiple packages as a single logical package. This can be accomplished through metapackages. A metapackage is a normal package with the following export tag in the `package.xml`:

```
<export>
  <metapackage />
</export>
```

Other than a required `<buildtool_depend>` dependency on catkin, metapackages can only have run dependencies on packages of which they group.

Additionally a metapackage has a required, boilerplate `CMakeLists.txt` file:

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 2.8.3)
project(<PACKAGE_NAME>)
find_package(catkin REQUIRED)
catkin_metapackage()
```

Note: replace `<PACKAGE_NAME>` with the name of the metapackage.

### D.3.5 Additional tags

**<url>**: A URL for information on the package, typically a wiki page on ros.org.

**<author>**: The author(s) of the package

# Appendix E

## Scenarios

In this chapter will be presented the organization and structure to be follow when implementing new scenarios in the simulator. Besides, the process required to add new scenarios will be detailed. Every scenario must be configured for one and only one UAV defined during the scenario configuration. In the end of this chapter an example is presented to illustrate the presented procedure.

### E.1 Organization

The scenario structure is divided in two parts. The first part is shown in figure E.1. To access the directories and files listed bellow the user should type the following path in a shell terminal:

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/models
```

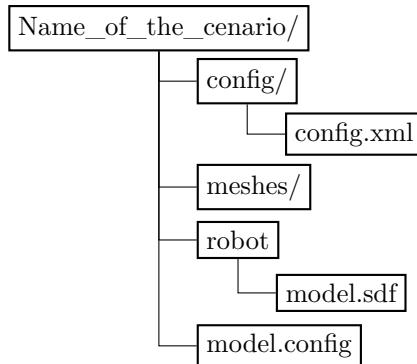


Figure E.1: Scenarios directories organization. The directories are represented by the retangular shapes with "/" in the end. The files are represented by the retangular shapes with some extension type at the end.

- The "config.xml" file stores information from the control strategy used in the UAV simulation.
- The "meshes" directory store the file responsible to generate the scenario visual representation.
- The "model.sdf" file describes the scenario visual model to the *Gazebo*.
- The "model.config" file describes the model metadata.

The second part is the ".world" file configuration where the UAV used in the simulation is defined as well as the scenario associated with it. To access the directories and files bellow the user should type the directory *Worlds* path in a shell terminal:

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/worlds/worlds
```

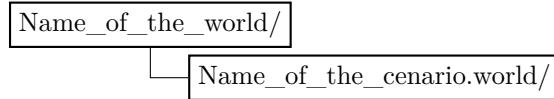


Figure E.2: Scenarios directories organization. The directories are represented by the rectangular shapes with "/" in the end. The files are represented by the rectangular shapes with some extension type at the end.

- The ".world" file is where the UAV used in the simulation is defined as well as the scenario associated with it.

## E.2 Obtaining the Scenario

The scenarios are obtained downloading ".dae" files. The DAE(Digital Asset Exchange files) extension is used to transfer images, textures and 3D models between graphical programs. The files are based on COLLADA, which uses a XML based system to guarantee compatibility between different graphical tools. This files can be downloaded at: <https://3dwarehouse.sketchup.com/>

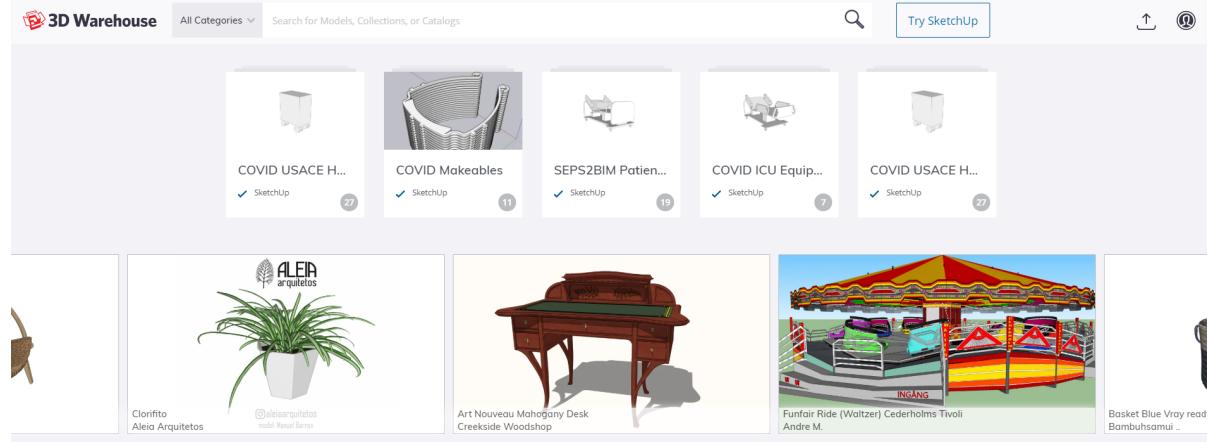


Figure E.3: 3dwarehouse website

Once the scenario has been choosed, the user should download the file as a COLLADA file as shown in E.4 and then save the files at the *meshes* directory explicated in E.1.

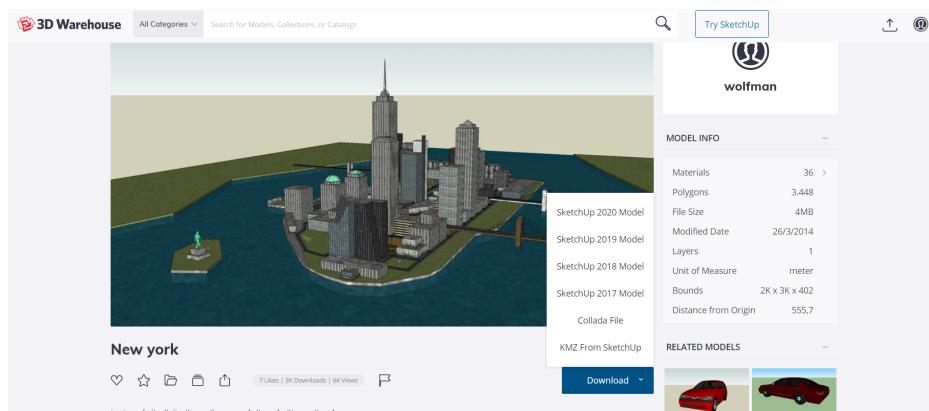


Figure E.4: Cenário

Some information have to be analysed from the 3dwarehouse website. In the *model info* section of figure E.5 is possible to note the *Polygon* parameter. A polygonal mesh is a collection of vertices, edges and faces that

MODEL INFO	
Materials	36 >
Polygons	3,448
File Size	4MB
Modified Date	26/3/2014
Layers	1
Unit of Measure	meter
Bounds	2K x 3K x 402
Distance from Origin	555,7

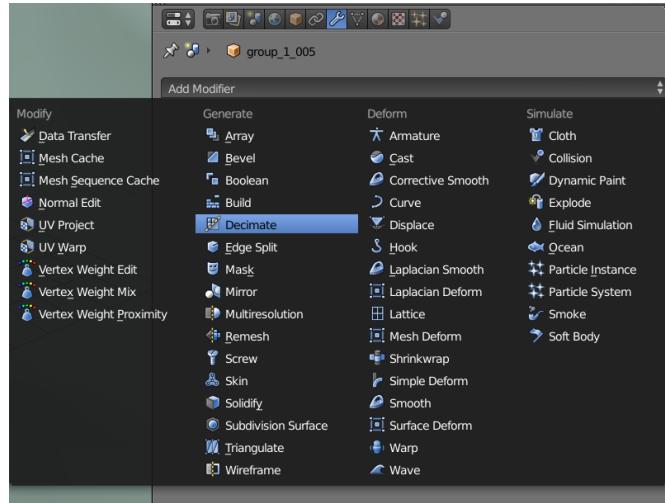
Figure E.5: Numero de *Polygons*

define the form of a 3D object. A high count of *Polygons* demands vastly from the GPU and can slow down the simulation.

In order to avoid such problem the user must choose a scenario with a low *Polygon* count or use a *mesh modifier* to reduce the *Polygon* count. The second option shall be treated in the next section.

### E.3 Treating the Scenario

To decrease the number of *Polygon* count the use of a *mesh modifier* is necessary, in this case, Blender's *Decimate Modifier* is the *mesh modifier* chosen. The first step is to download Blender. Once Blender is installed, the ".dae" file from the *meshes* directory should be imported. Then, in the right corner menu the user should select the mesh modifier.

Figure E.6: *Decimate Modifier*

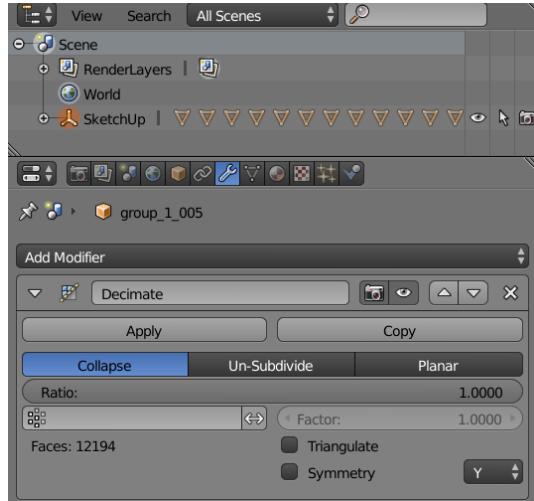
There are three available options for simplifying the mesh: *Collapse*, *Un-subdivide* and *Planar*.

- ***Collapse*:**

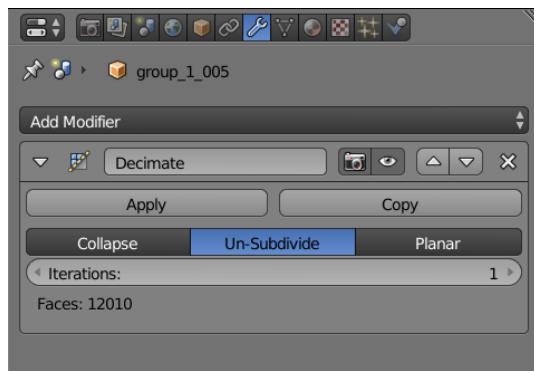
Progressively unites the vertices taking in to account the mesh shape. There are four parameters in this modifier:

- *Ratio*: Define the collapsed vertices ratio. If the values is equal to 1, the mesh is not altered, if the value is 0.5 half of the faces are collapsed, and if the values equals to 0 all faces have been removed.
- *Factor*: The amount of influence the Vertex Group has on the decimation.

- *Triangulate*: Keeps any resulting triangulated geometry from the decimation process.
- *Symmetry*: Maintains symmetry on a single axis.

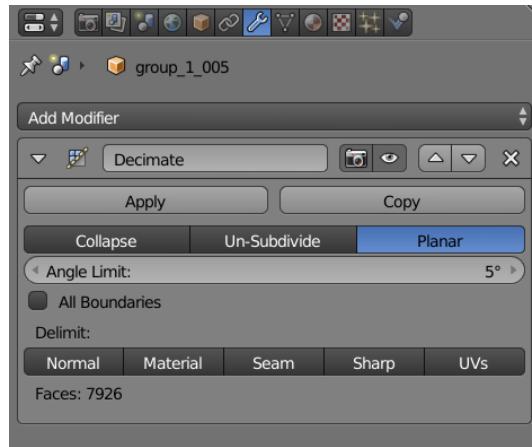
Figure E.7: *Collapse*

- **Un-subdivide**: It can be thought of as the reverse of subdivide. It attempts to remove edges that were the result of a subdivide operation. It is intended for meshes with a mainly grid-based topology (without giving uneven geometry). If additional editing has been done after the subdivide operation, the results may be unexpected.
  - *Iterations*: The number of times to perform the un-subdivide operation. Two iterations is the same as one subdivide operation, so you will usually want to use even numbers.

Figure E.8: *Un-subdivide*

- **Planar**: It reduces details on forms comprised of mainly flat surfaces.
  - *Angle Limit*: Dissolve geometry which form angles (between surfaces) higher than this setting.
  - *All Boundaries*: When enabled, all vertices along the boundaries of faces are dissolved. This can give nicer results when using a high Angle Limit.
  - *Delimit*: Prevent dissolving geometry in certain places.

At the top left menu the user should export the modified file with the ".dae" extension to the *meshes* directory following the organization shown in [E.1](#).

Figure E.9: *Planar*

## E.4 Scenario Configuration

Once the ".dae" file is treated is then necessary to start to configure the directories and files as shown in E.1

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/models/
```

The user should configure the "model.sdf" file as visual link only as shown bellow.

```
<model name="scenario_name">
  <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
  <static>true</static>
    <link name="link_name">
      <visual name="scenario_visual_name">
        <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
        <geometry>
          <mesh>
            <uri>model://scenario_directory_name/meshes/dae_file_name.dae</uri>
          </mesh>
        </geometry>
      </visual>
    </link>
  </model>
</sdf>
```

Code: "model.sdf" description for a scenario

In the "meshes" directory the ".dae" files modified in blender as well as any texture file should be included. The "config.xml" file must be the same file from the uav the user intends to use with the scenario during the simulation.

```
<config>
<topicdata>data</topicdata>
<TopicoStep>Step</TopicoStep>
<Sampletime>12</Sampletime>
<Strategy>Control_Strategy_of_Desired_UAV</Strategy>
<RefPath>ref.txt</RefPath>
<Outputfile>out.txt</Outputfile>
<InputPath>in.txt</InputPath>
<ErroPath>erro.txt</ErroPath>
```

```

<Sensors>
    <Device>Topic_to_Receive_States_of_Desired_UAV</Device>
</Sensors>
<Actuators>
    <Device>Actuator_of_Desired_UAV</Device>
    .
    .
    .
    <Device>Actuator_of_Desired_UAV</Device>
</Actuators>
</config>

```

Code: "config.xml" description for a scenario

- <Strategy></Strategy>: specify the control strategy binary of the chosen uav;
- <Sensors></Sensors>: topic where the uav states are published;
- <Actuators></Actuators>: topics that receive the control signals and apply to the uav;

The "model.config" file can be configured as shown:

```

<model>
    <name>scenario_name</name>
    <version>1.0</version>
    <sdf version="1.4">robot/model.sdf</sdf>
    <author>
        <name></name>
        <email></email>
    </author>
    <description></description>
</model>

```

Code: "model.config" file description for a scenario

\$HOME/catkin\_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/worlds/worlds

The ".world" file must be configured as follows:

```

<world name="/$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/worlds/worlds
/scenario_world_directory/file_name.world">
    <gravity>0 0 -9.8</gravity>
    <physics type="ode">
        <max_step_size>0.001</max_step_size>
        <real_time_factor>0</real_time_factor>
    </physics>
    <plugin name="gazebo_tutorials" filename="libgazebo_ros_world_plugin.so">
        <ok>nothil</ok>
    </plugin>
    <include>
        <uri>model://sun</uri>
        <static>true</static>
    </include>
    <include>
        <uri>model://Desired_UAV</uri>
        <name>Arbitrary_name_to_appear_in_Gazebo</name>
        <static>false</static>
        <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
    </include>

```

```

<include>
  <uri>model://Desired_scenario_from_models_directory</uri>
  <name>Arbitrary_name_to_appear_in_Gazebo</name>
  <static>true</static>
  <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
</include>
<scene>
  <sky>
    <time>18</time>
    <clouds>
      <speed>0</speed>
    </clouds>
  </sky>
</scene>
</world>
</sdf>

```

Code: ".world" file description for a scenario

## E.5 Example

### E.5.1 UAV 4.0 Scenario

The first step is to download the file and using the option *import* in the top menu *File* tab on Blender open the ".dae" file as shown in [E.10](#)

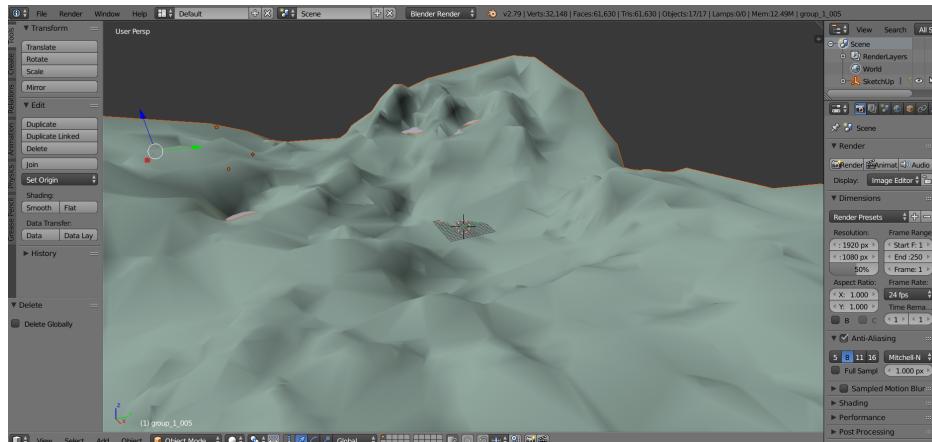
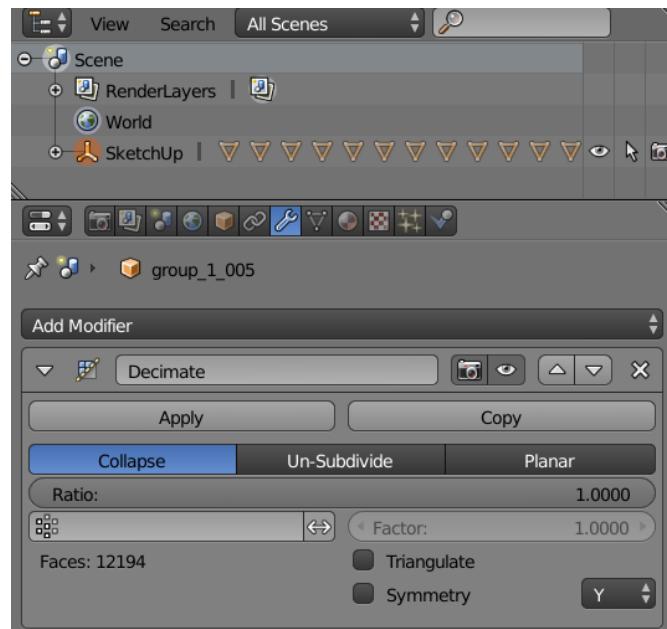


Figure E.10: Scenario in Blender

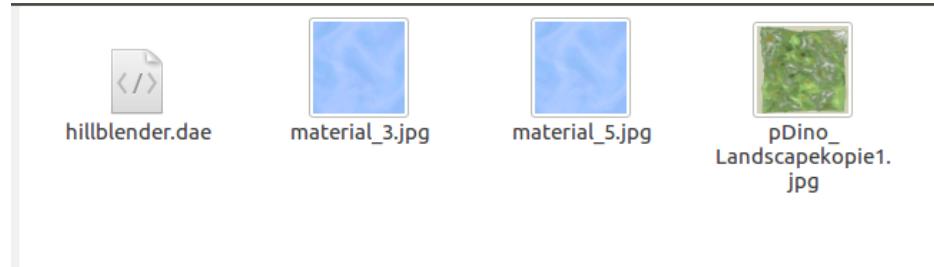
In the right menu of blender the user should select one of the three options presented in the *modifiers* tab: *Collapse*, *Un-subdivide* or *Planar*. In the application the option *Collapse* was chosen so the vertices would progressively joined but keeping the mesh shape into account. In this case the parameter to be modified is the *ratio* parameter, which defines the collapsed vertices ratio. As presented in the sections above, a ratio value of 1 keeps the mesh unchanged. It's possible to follow the number of removed faces when using a *modifier* by checking the *faces* option shown in [E.11](#). It's important that after the *modifiers* are applied the user must select the *Apply* option so the changes are saved.

Once the modifications are saved the user should export the model as a ".dae" file using the top left menu *File* tab and selecting the *export* option. Create the directories and files as shown in [E.1](#) and then save the ".dae" file in the *meshes* directory of the scenario model. In this case, the file is on the path bellow:

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/srcProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/models/cenario_hill/meshes
```

Figure E.11: *Collapse* in 3D Blender

At the *meshes* directory, besides of the ".dae" file, the textures files should also be included as shown in E.12

Figure E.12: *meshes* Directory

The scenario "model.sdf" file must be configured then. To do so the user should head to the scenario model directory and at the "robot" directory open the "model.sdf" file with the user's editor of preference.

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/models/cenario_hill/robot
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<sdf version="1.4">
  <model name="cenario_hill">
    <pose>0 0 0  0 0 0</pose>
    <static>true</static>
    <link name="body">
      <visual name="visual">
        <geometry>
          <mesh> <uri>model://cenario_hill/meshes/hillblender.dae</uri></mesh>
        </geometry>
      </visual>
    </link>
  </model>
</sdf>
```

Figure E.13: Scenario "model.sdf" file example

The scenario "model.sdf" file should only contain a link with visual properties as shown in [E.13](#). The "model.config" file must be configured as [E.14](#) with the appropriate description.

```
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
<model>
  <name>cenario_hill</name>
  <version>1.0</version>
  <sdf version="1.4">robot/model.sdf</sdf>
  <author>
    <name>provant</name>
    <email>provant@hotmail.com</email>
  </author>
  <description>A hill cenario for simulating uav's in search and rescue missions</description>
</model>
```

Figure E.14: Scenario "model.config" file example

Still at the scenario model directory the user should configure the 'config.xml' file. Definig UAV 4.0 ([A.14](#)) as the simulation uav, both uav "config.xml" file and the scenario "config.xml" file should be the same. This is due the internal simulator software organization. The file is configured as shown in [E.15](#).

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<config>
  <topicdata>data</topicdata>
  <TopicoStep>Step</TopicoStep>
  <Sampletime>12</Sampletime>
  <Strategy>libvant4_Winf.so</Strategy>
  <RefPath>ref.txt</RefPath>
  <Outputfile>out.txt</Outputfile>
  <InputPath>in.txt</InputPath>
  <ErroPath>erro.txt</ErroPath>
  <Sensors>
    <Device>Estados</Device>
  </Sensors>
  <Actuators>
    <Device>ThrustR</Device>
    <Device>ThrustL</Device>
    <Device>RefRotorR</Device>
    <Device>RefRotorL</Device>
    <Device>RefAileronR</Device>
    <Device>RefAileronL</Device>
    <Device>RefRudderR</Device>
    <Device>RefRudderL</Device>
  </Actuators>
</config>
```

Figure E.15: Scenario "config.xml" example when using UAV 4.0.

Then the user should create the directories and files as in [E.2](#). In this example, the directory where the ".world" file is located is the Hill directory at the [E.5.1](#) path.

```
$HOME/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/worlds/worlds/Hill
```

The ".world" file is configured as shownn in figure [E.16](#)

It's important to understand the *tags* that include both the UAV and the scenario model.

```
<include>
  <uri>model://vant_4_aerod</uri>
  <name>newmodel</name>
  <static>false</static>
  <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
```

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<sdf version="1.6">
  <world name="/home/catkin_ws/src/ProVANT-Simulator/source/Database/worlds/worlds/Hill/hill.world">
    <gravity>0 0 -9.8</gravity>
    <physics type="ode">
      <max_step_size>0.001</max_step_size>
      <real_time_factor>0</real_time_factor>
    </physics>
    <plugin name="gazebo_tutorials" filename="libgazebo_ros_world_plugin.so">
      <ok>nothil</ok>
    </plugin>
    <include>
      <uri>model://sun</uri>
      <static>true</static>
    </include>
    <include>
      <uri>model://vant_4_aerod</uri>
      <name>newmodel</name>
      <static>false</static>
      <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
    </include>
    <include>
      <uri>model://cenario_hill</uri>
      <name>cenario_hill</name>
      <static>true</static>
      <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
    </include>
    <scene>
      <sky>
        <time>18</time>
        <clouds>
          <speed>0</speed>
        </clouds>
      </sky>
    </scene>
  </world>
</sdf>

```

Figure E.16: ".world" File configured for a scenario using UAV 4.0.

```

</include>
<include>
  <uri>model://cenario_hill</uri>
  <name>cenario_hill</name>
  <static>true</static>
  <pose>0 0 0 0 0 0</pose>
</include>

```

Code: Including UAV and scenario model in the ".world" file.

- <uri></uri>: Search for the UAV and scenario models in the *model* directory.
- <name></name>: UAV and Scenario names displayed in Gazebo.
- <static></static>: Indicates if the object is static in the simulation.
- <pose></pose>: For the uav, the pose should be the same as the pose for the uav without scenario, and for the scenario the pose should be the one displayed in the figured.

Doing so the simulation will be ready to be launched. To start the UAV 4.0 with scenario simulation the user should follow the steps presented in section 3 examples.

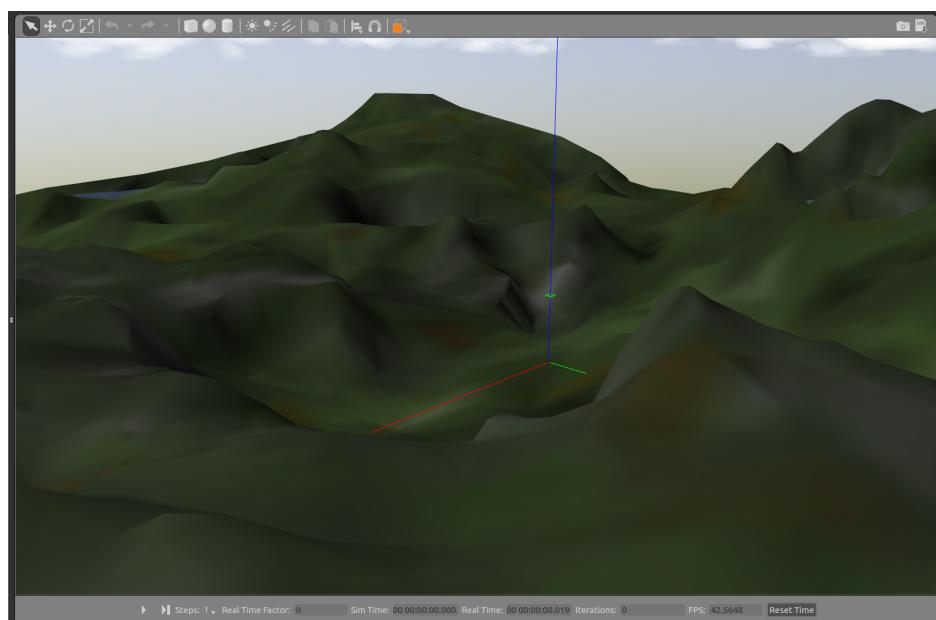


Figure E.17: UAV 4.0 with Scenario Simulation



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