

PHILIPS

sense and simplicity

Robot Arm Example Software

Rob Beekmans / Gérard Haagh
Philips Applied Technologies

9 December 2009

Contents

- Introduction
- System overview
- Controller component
- Servo
- I/O Layer
- Application
- CORBA interface
- User Interface component
- Build system
- Questions

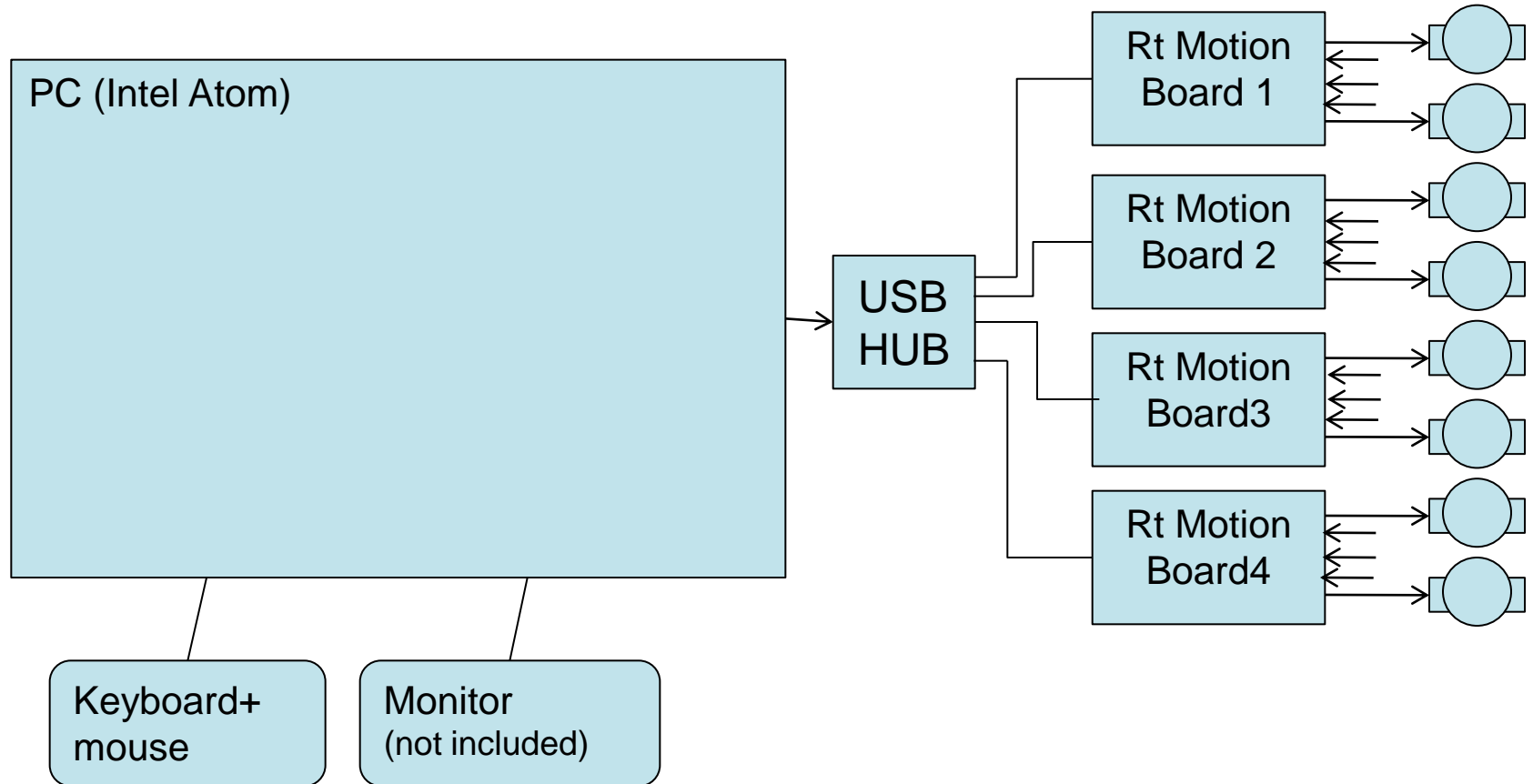
Introduction

- Goals for the software in the robot arm project
 - Should be able to control the robot arm also during development
 - Uses the RtmotionUSB api
 - Example code that is simple to understand and extend
 - Using open source software

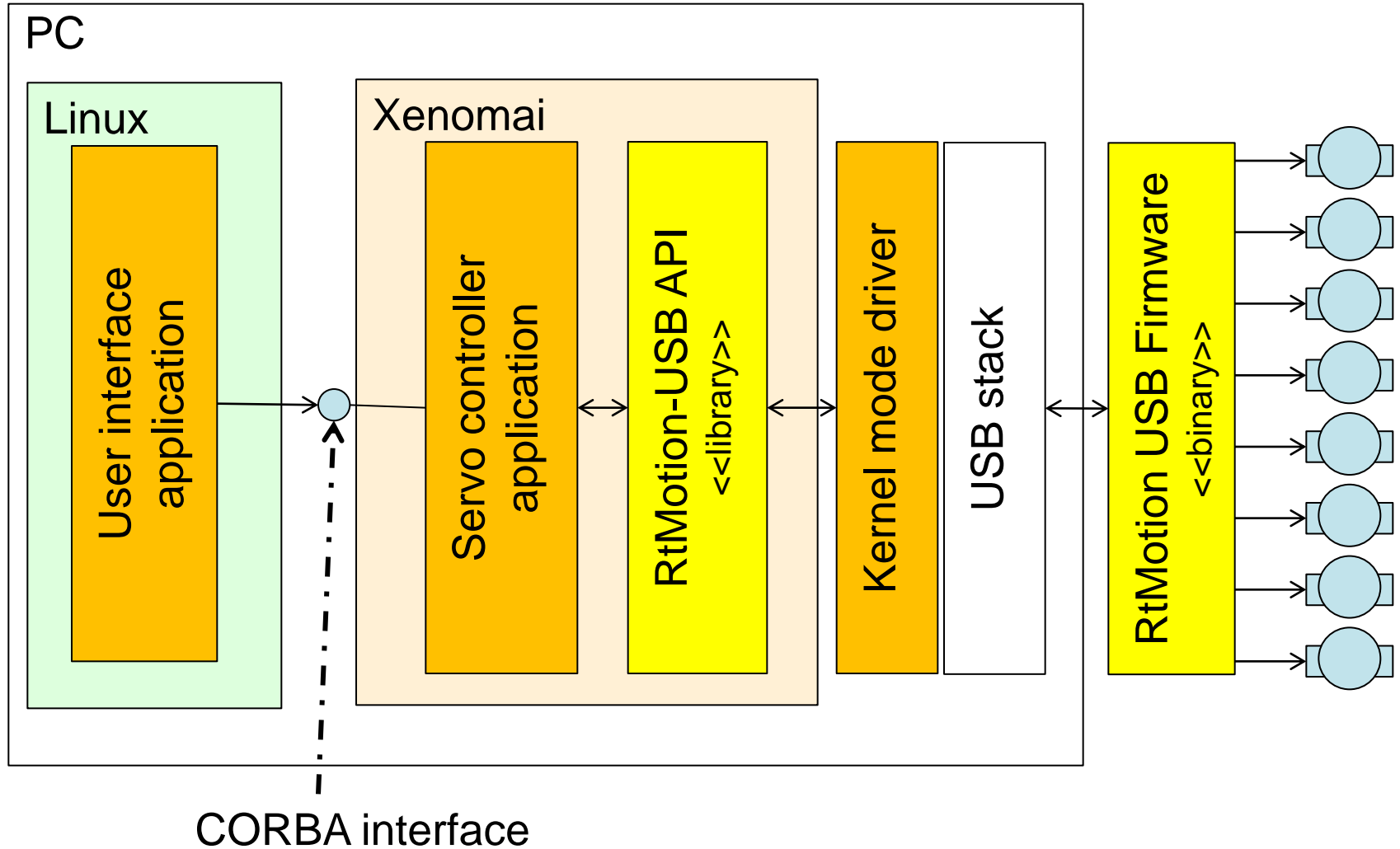
Software result

- Linux system with Xenomai RealTime extension
- Realtime controller task @ 500Hz
 - Eight PID controller loops
 - 2nd order setpointgenerator for each controller loop
 - Signal tracing
 - Interface with RtMotion-USB I/O hardware
- Graphical Userinterface
 - Control of each loop
 - Simple moves and jogs
 - Automatic execution of moves
 - Parameter reloading
- Written in C++

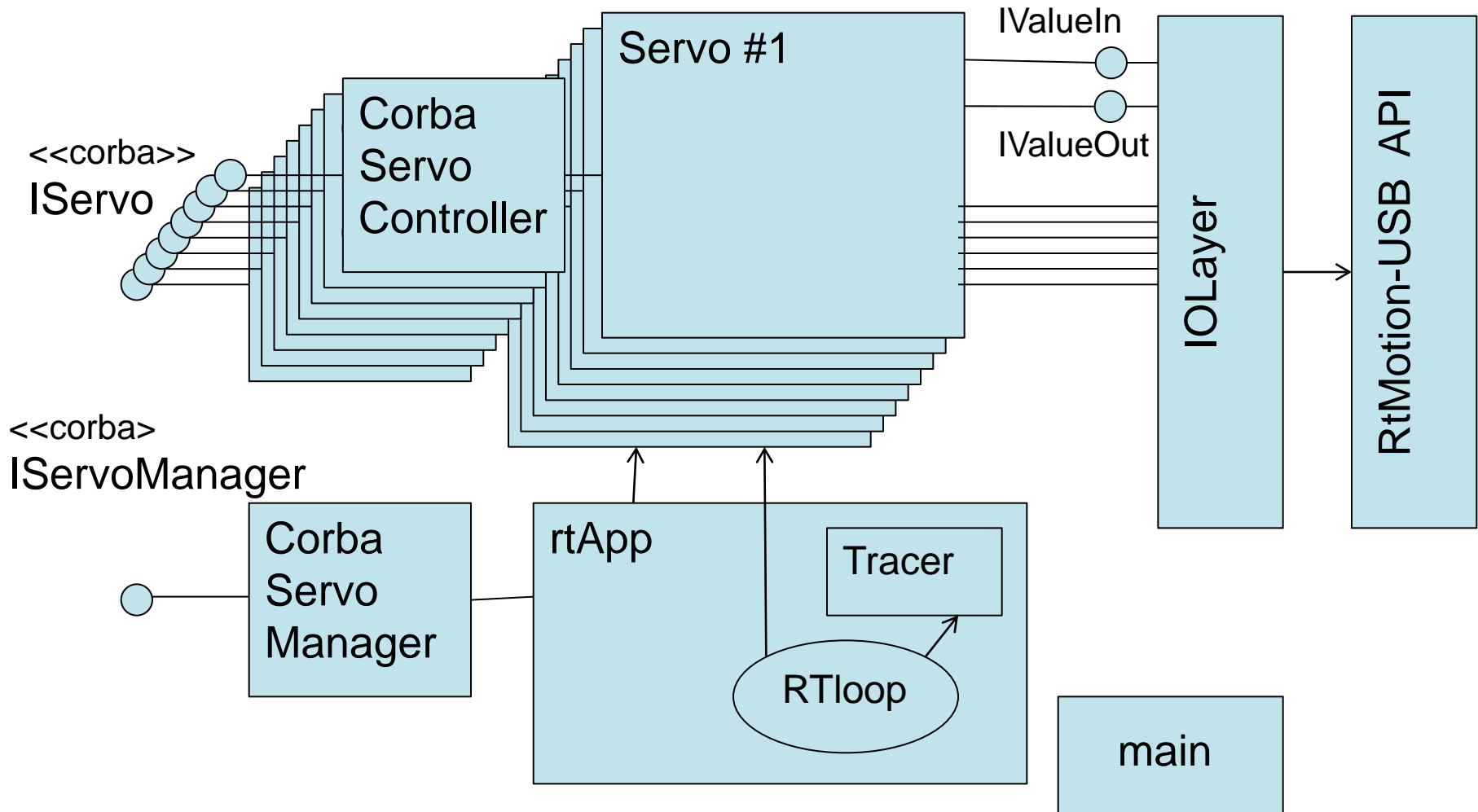
Physical overview



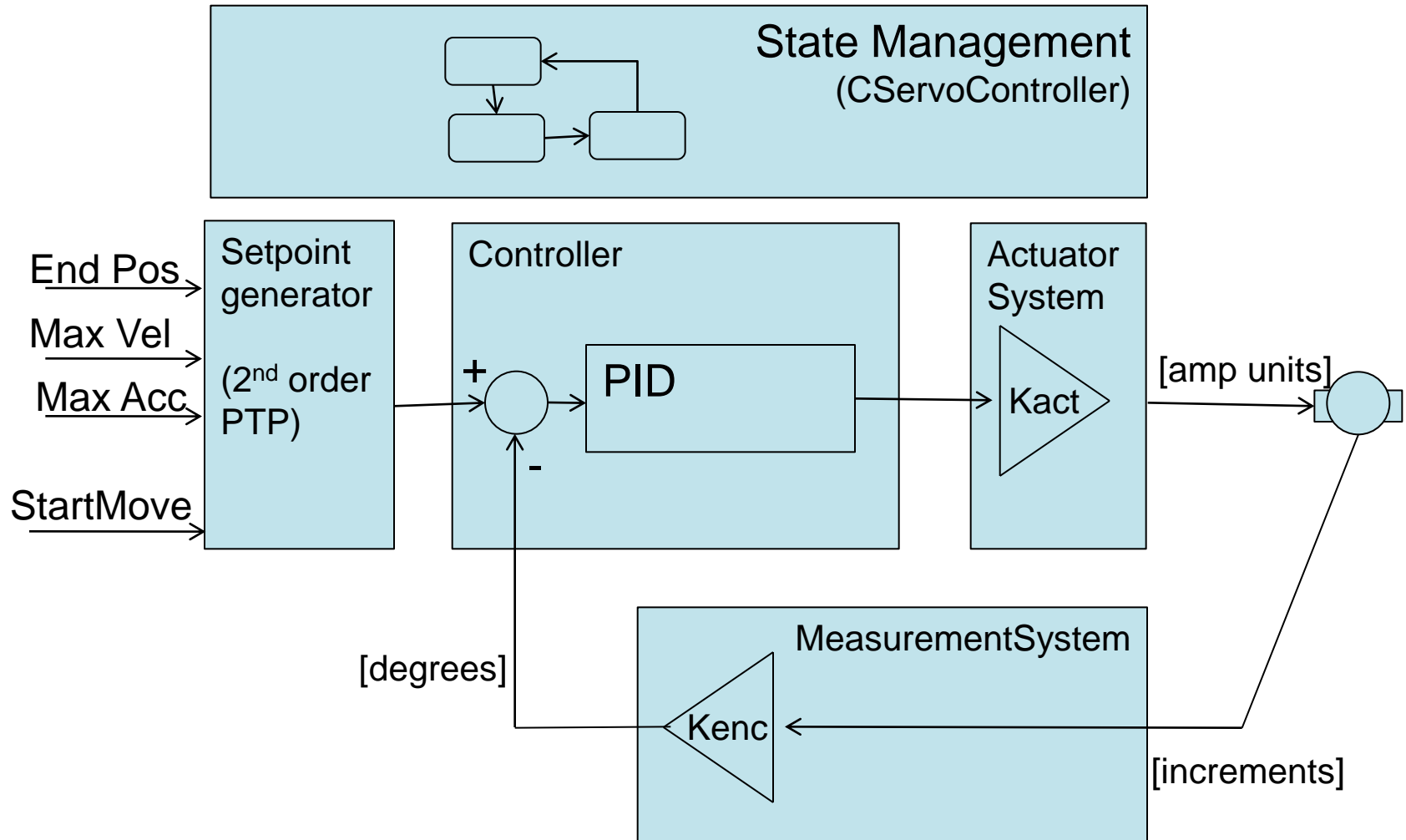
SW-Components/Layers



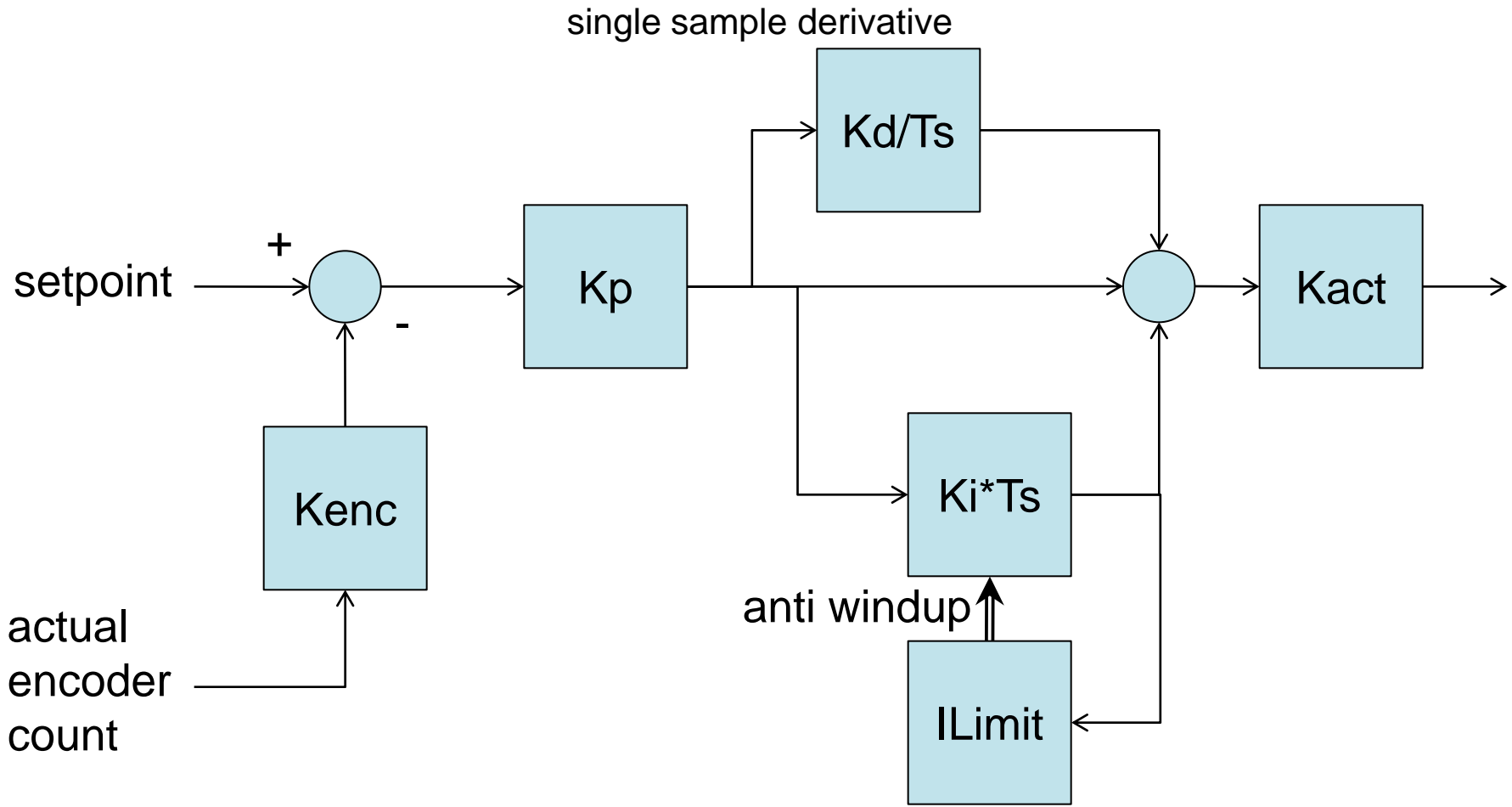
Controller App. Components



Servo

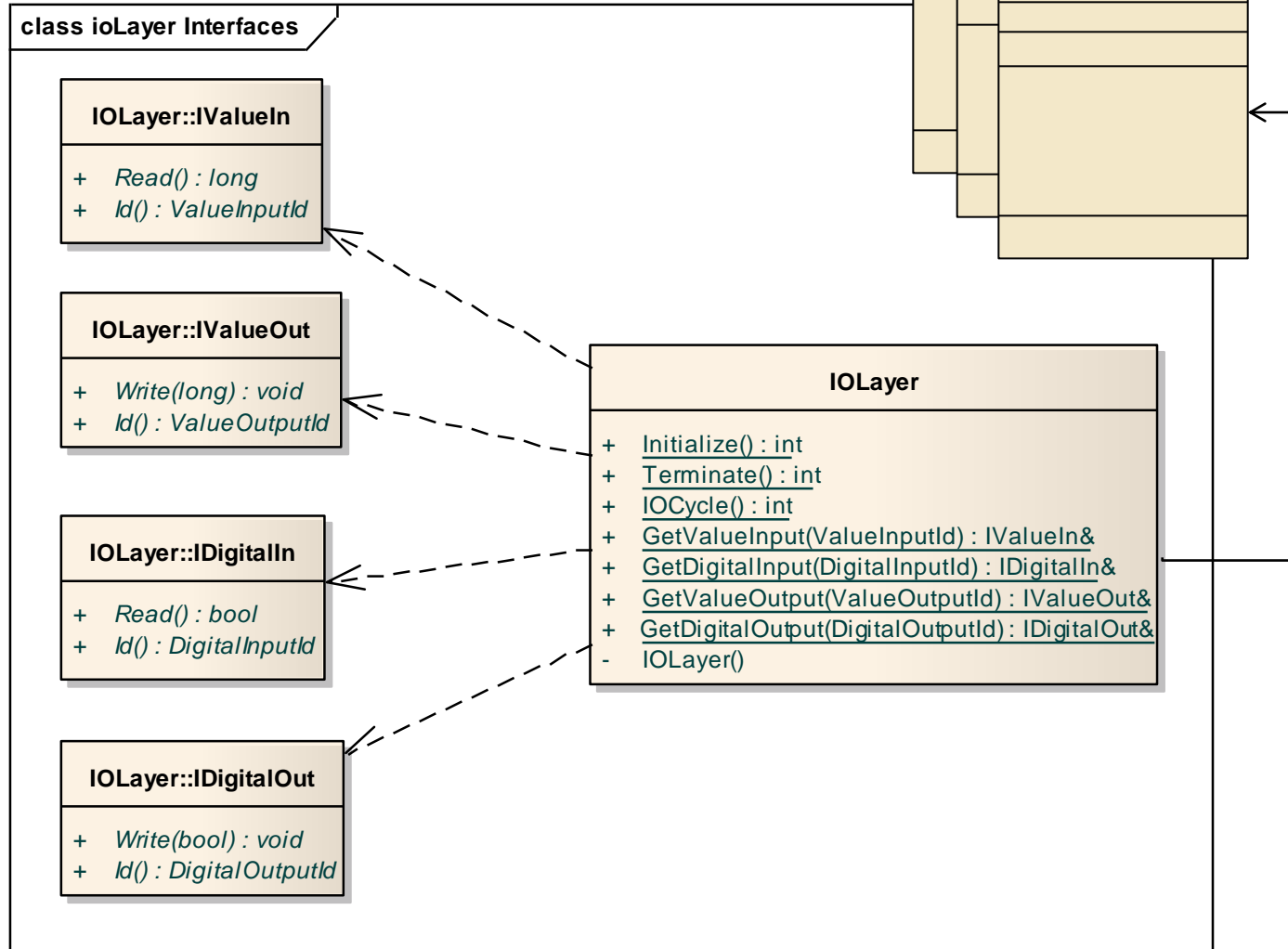


Servo controller

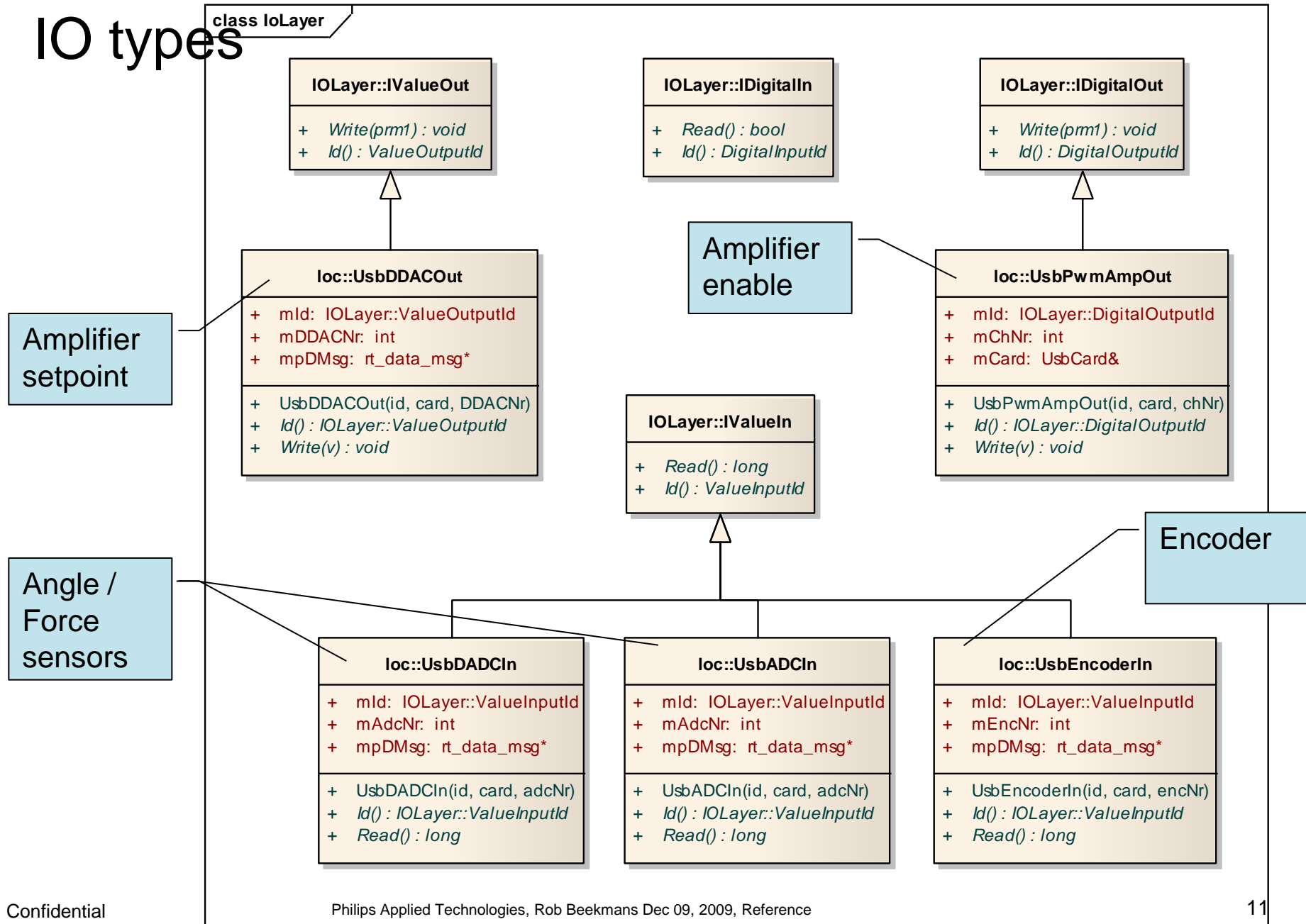


IO - Interfaces/Repository

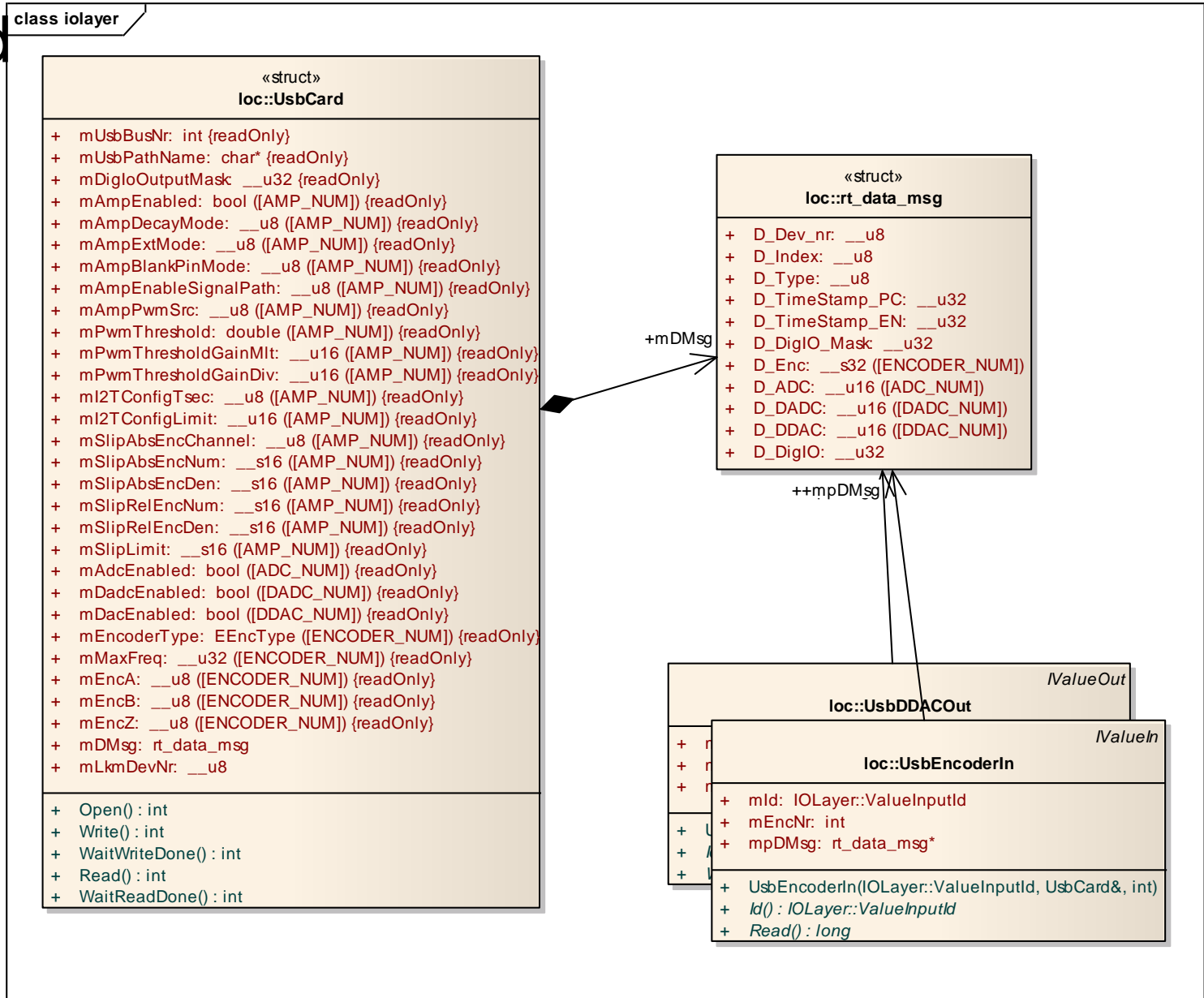
Tables with DI, AO, AI
(ioConfig.cpp)



IO types



IO Card



Appplication (rtApp)

- Starting point for all software in the controller
- Initializes the IOLayer
- Initializes the CORBA interface
- Defines the servos in the system
(sets the IO channels for each servo and some constant parameters like Kenc, Kact)
- Executes the periodic Real Time loop

CORBA interface

- CORBA middleware stack:
<http://www.cs.wustl.edu/~schmidt/TAO.html>
- Interfaces: IServoManager, IServoController
see file comp\controller\corba\inc\rtServoIF.idl

User Interface Application

- Features:
 - Control of all eight servo loops, including ptp and jog movements
 - Allow servo parameter reloading (only when open loop)
 - Allow tracing of controller signal values
 - Allow automatic execution of move commands
- Graphical user interface is based on the FOX toolkit (www.fox-toolkit.org). This is a platform independent GUI toolkit (also available for Windows)

User Interface screenshot

RobotArmGUI

	SH1	SH2	SH3	EL1	EL2	WR1	WR2	HND
Actual Position	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.0	0.0	0.0
Controller State	Open loop	Open loop	Open loop	Open loop	Open loop	Open loop	Open loop	Open loop
Max Track Err	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Close All	CloseLoop	CloseLoop	CloseLoop	CloseLoop	CloseLoop	CloseLoop	CloseLoop	CloseLoop
Open All	OpenLoop	OpenLoop	OpenLoop	OpenLoop	OpenLoop	OpenLoop	OpenLoop	OpenLoop
HomeAll	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Reset Err	Reset Err	Reset Err	Reset Err	Reset Err	Reset Err	Reset Err	Reset Err
target Pos	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
max Vel	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	10.0
max Acc	300.0	300.0	300.0	300.0	300.0	300.0	300.0	100.0
Move All	Move	Move	Move	Move	Move	Move	Move	Move
	Jog -	Jog -	Jog -	Jog -	Jog -	Jog -	Jog -	Jog -
	Jog +	Jog +	Jog +	Jog +	Jog +	Jog +	Jog +	Jog +
Abs Pos	310.0	317.0	312.0	310.0	317.0	311.0	315.0	0.0
Force	315.0	320.0	313.0	314.0	320.0	316.0	316.0	0.0

Tracing

Trace duration [# samples]

Trace filename

Trace Start **Trace Stop** **Trace Save**

Sequence file execution

Sequence filename

Sequence Start **Sequence Stop**

General

Stop all

Reload Parameters

Ready.

Build system

- CMake (www.cmake.org) is a open source cross platform build system
- CMake is used to generate makefiles and to build them.

- cdbuild (alias to jump to the build directory)
- ./xeno_generate.sh
- ./linux_generate.sh
- ./xeno_build.sh
- ./linux_build.sh

Running the software

- Boot the PC
- Open a shell prompt window
- Execute the commands:
 - `ldlkm` (loads the kernel mode driver; run only once after booting)
 - `ldxeno` (loads the Xenomai modules; run only once after booting)
 - `cdservo` (jumps to the directory with controller app)
 - `sudo ./RtMotionApp` (run the controller app)
- Open another shell prompt
- Execute the commands:
 - `cdgui` (jumps to the directory with GUI app)
 - `./RtMotionGui` (run the GUI)
- To stop: exit the GUI, kill the controller app with `^C`
- Restart: repeat all except `ldlkm` and `ldxeno`

Questions

- Q: Can I swap the USB connectors on the hub
A: NO, unless you change ioConfig.cpp
- Q: Can I connect the USB hub to another USB port
A: NO, unless you change ioConfig.cpp
- Q: Does the PC detect the RtMotion-USB boards
A: “cat /proc/RtMotionUSB” should list 4 boards
- Q: Can I connect other USB devices
A: At your own risk, it could disturb real time behavior
- Wvttk

