Lesson 7 The Definition and Use Of Topics Message

1. Customize Topic Message

Note: Before customizing the topic message, the workspace and package need to be created first. The specific operation steps can be viewed in “ROS Basic Lessons/Lesson 3 Create Workspace and Package.

The specific operation steps for customizing topic massages are as following:

1) Open the terminal.

2) Enter “roscd beginner_hiwonder” command to locate to the package directory and press “Enter”.

Note: If there is a prompt “**No such package/stack ‘beginner_hiwonder**” appears, it means that the package does not exist in the environment variable ROS_PACKAGE_PATH. The specific solution can be viewed in “ROS Basic Lessons/Lesson 3 Create Workspace and Package”. After the problem is solved, please repeat the current step.

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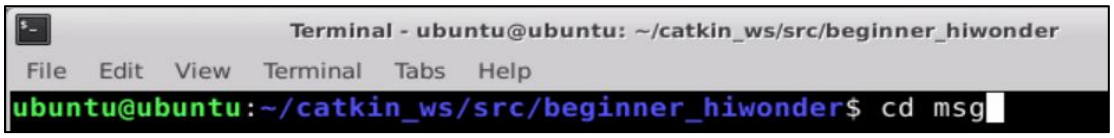
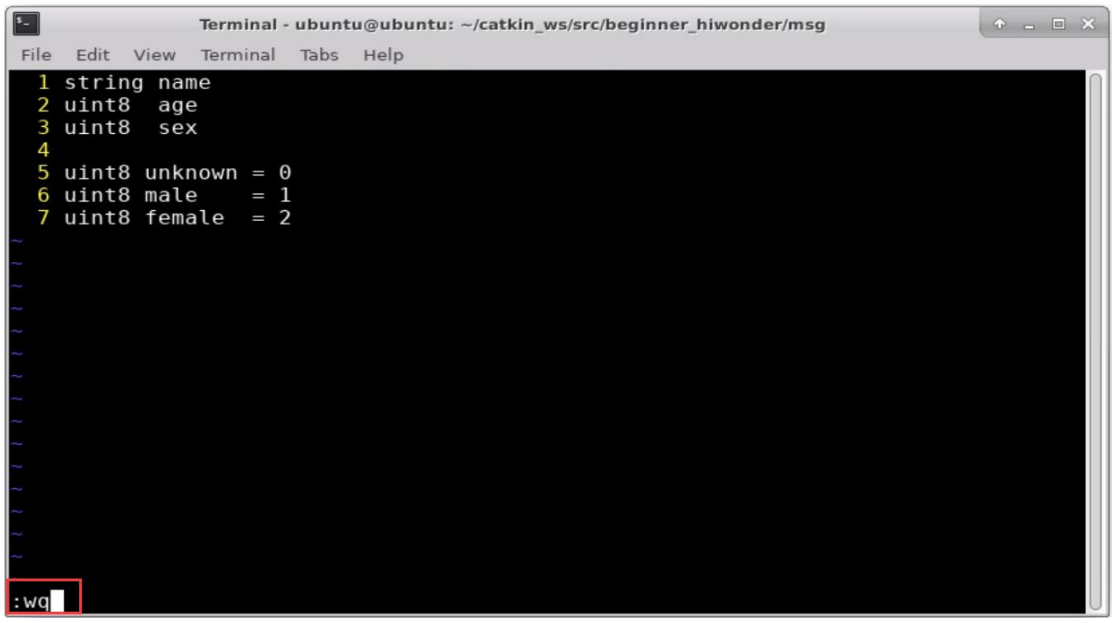
3) Enter “mkdir msg” command and press “Enter”. Then create a new folder “msg” for storing text files.

4) Enter “cd msg” command and press “Enter”.



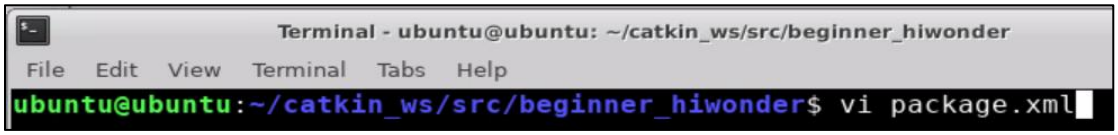
5) Enter “vi Person.msg” command to edit program and copy the following program. If want to modify, you can press “i” key. After modifying, press “Esc” and enter “:wq” to save and exit.


```
string name

uint8   age

uint8   sex



uint8 unknown = 0

uint8 male      = 1

uint8 female    = 2
```



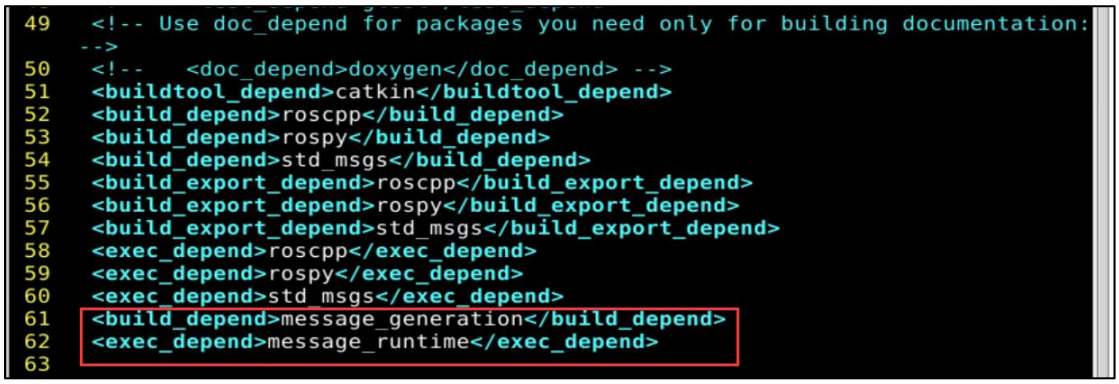
6) Enter “vi package.xml” command. Then copy the following program and

add the package dependencies in the position shown in the figure below. If want to modify, you can press “i” again. After modifying, press “Esc” and enter “:wq” to save and exit.



7) Add the package dependencies in the position shown in the below figure:

```
<build_depend>message_generation</build_depend>

<exec_depend>message_runtime</exec_depend>
```




```
  <!--   <doc_depend>doxygen</doc_depend> -->
  <buildtool_depend>catkin</buildtool_depend>
  <build_depend>roscpp</build_depend>
  <build_depend>rospy</build_depend>
  <build_depend>std_msgs</build_depend>
  <build_export_depend>roscpp</build_export_depend>
  <build_export_depend>rospy</build_export_depend>
  <build_export_depend>std_msgs</build_export_depend>
  <exec_depend>roscpp</exec_depend>
  <exec_depend>rospy</exec_depend>
  <exec_depend>std_msgs</exec_depend>
  <build_depend>message_generation</build_depend>
  <exec_depend>message_runtime</exec_depend>
```

8) Enter “vi CMakeLists.txt” and press “i” to modify “CMakeLists.txt” file.

9) Add the required compiation option “message_generation” in the position shown in the figure below.

10) Locate the code shown in the figure below. Then uncomment the framed code and add the required compilation option “Person.msg”.

```
49
50 ## Generate messages in the 'msg' folder
51 # add_message_files(
52 #   FILES
53 #   Message1.msg
54 #   Message2.msg
55 # )
```

```
49
50 ## Generate messages in the 'msg' folder
51  add_message_files(
52    FILES
53    Person.msg
54  )
55
```

11) Find the code shown in the figure below. Then uncomment the code in red box and ensure that the required compilation options take effect.

```
69
70 ## Generate added messages and services with any dependencies listed here
71 # generate_messages(
72 #   DEPENDENCIES
73 #   std_msgs
74 # )
75
```

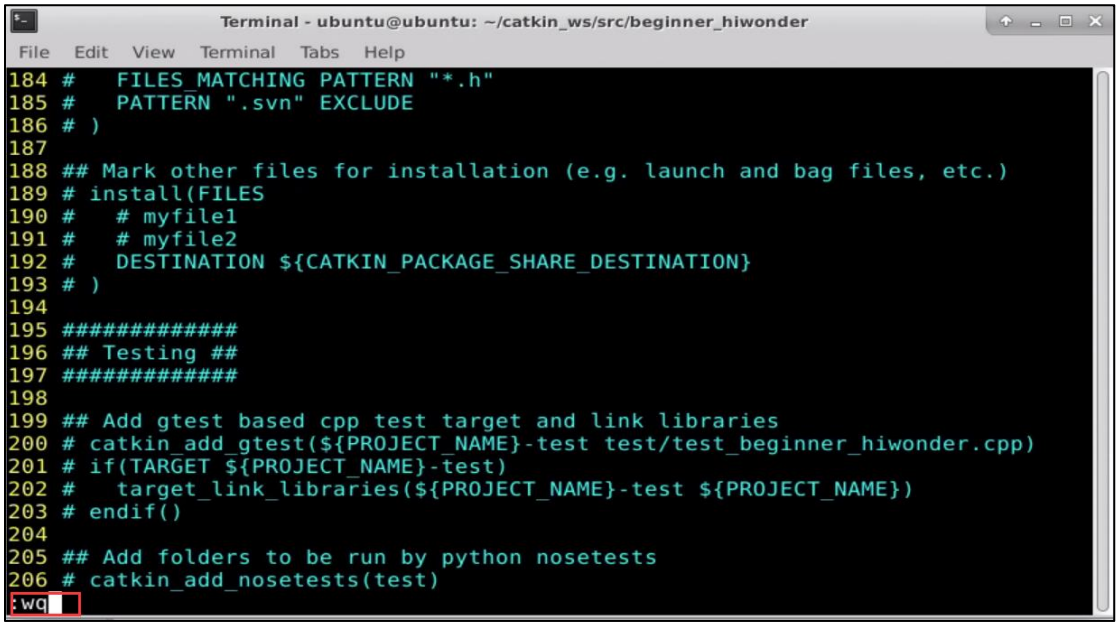
```
69
70 ## Generate added messages and services with any dependencies listed here
71  generate_messages(
72    DEPENDENCIES
73    std_msgs
74  )
75
```

12) Find the code shown in the figure below. Then uncomment the code in red box and add the required compilation option “message_runtime”.

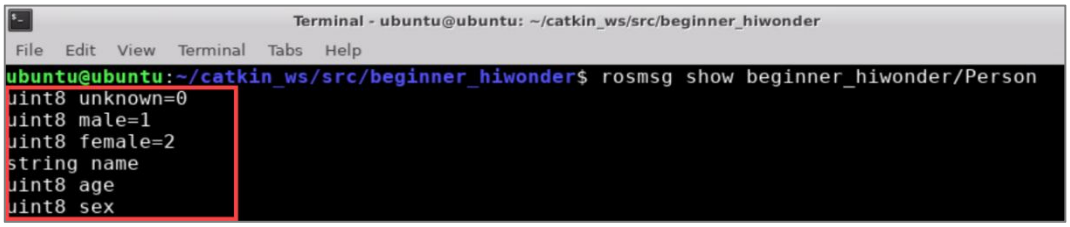
```
105 catkin_package(
106 #  INCLUDE_DIRS include
107 #  LIBRARIES beginner_hiwonder
108 #  CATKIN_DEPENDS roscpp rospy std_msgs
109 #  DEPENDS system_lib
110 )
```

```
105 catkin_package(
106 #  INCLUDE_DIRS include
107 #  LIBRARIES beginner_hiwonder
108    CATKIN_DEPENDS roscpp rospy std_msgs message_runtime
109 #  DEPENDS system_lib
110 )
111
```

13) After modifying, press “Esc” and enter “:wq” to save and exit.



14) Enter the command “rosmsg show beginner_hiwonder/Person” and press “Enter” to check whether the message written can be recognized by system. When the words shown in red box appear, it means that they are recognized successfully.



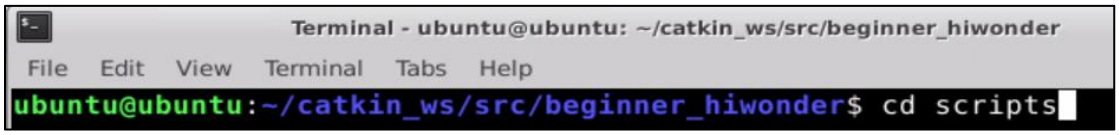
2. The Use of Topic Message

2.1 Create Publisher and Subscriber Code

1) Open the terminal.

2) Enter “roscd beginner_hiwonder” command to locate to the package directory and press “Enter”.

3) Enter “cd scripts” command and press “Enter” to come to the folder “scripts” where Python scripts are stored.

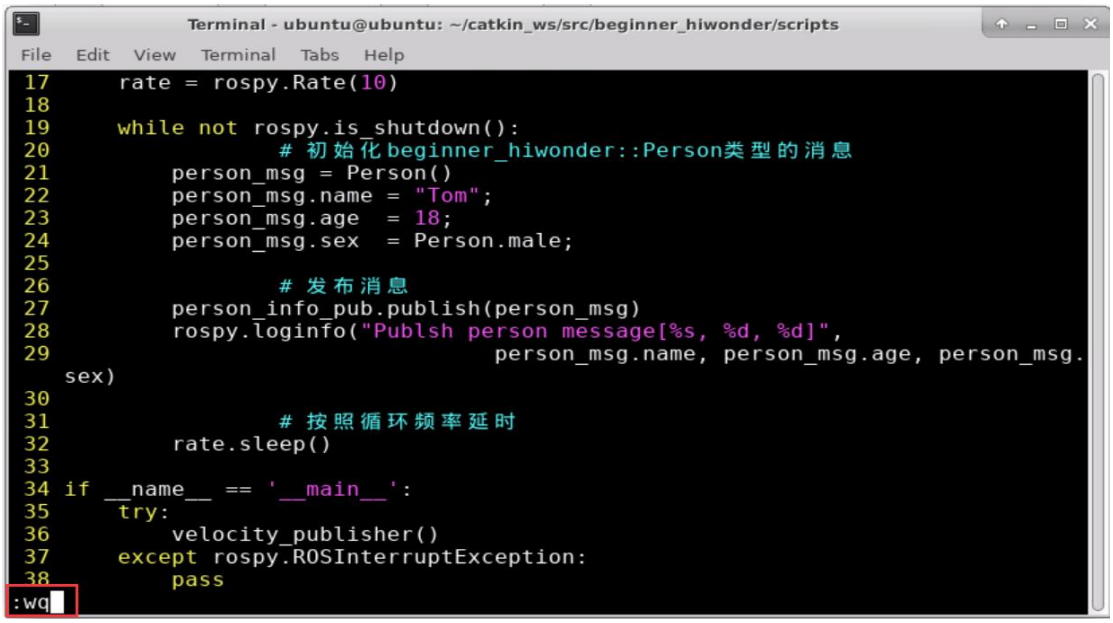


4) Enter “vi person_publisher.py” command to edit progam, and then copy the following program. If want to modify, you can press “i”. After modifying, press “Esc” and enter “:wq” to save and exit.


```
#!/usr/bin/env python

# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-



#This routine will pulish /person_info topic and customize message type beginner_hiwonder::Person.



import rospy

from beginner_hiwonder.msg import Person



def velocity_publisher():

    # Initialize ROS node

    rospy.init_node('person_publisher', anonymous=True)

    # Create a publisher and publish a topic named /person_info. The message type is beginner_hiwonder::Person and the queue length is 10.
```

```
    person_info_pub = rospy.Publisher('/person_info', Person, queue_size=10)



    #set the loop rate

    rate = rospy.Rate(10)



    while not rospy.is_shutdown():

        # Initialize the message of beginner_hiwonder::Person type

        person_msg = Person()

        person_msg.name = "Tom";

        person_msg.age    = 18;

        person_msg.sex    = Person.male;



        # publish message

        person_info_pub.publish(person_msg)

        rospy.loginfo("Publsh person message[%s, %d, %d]",

                person_msg.name, person_msg.age, person_msg.sex)



        # Delay on basis of the loop rate

        rate.sleep()



if __name__ == '__main__':

    try:
```

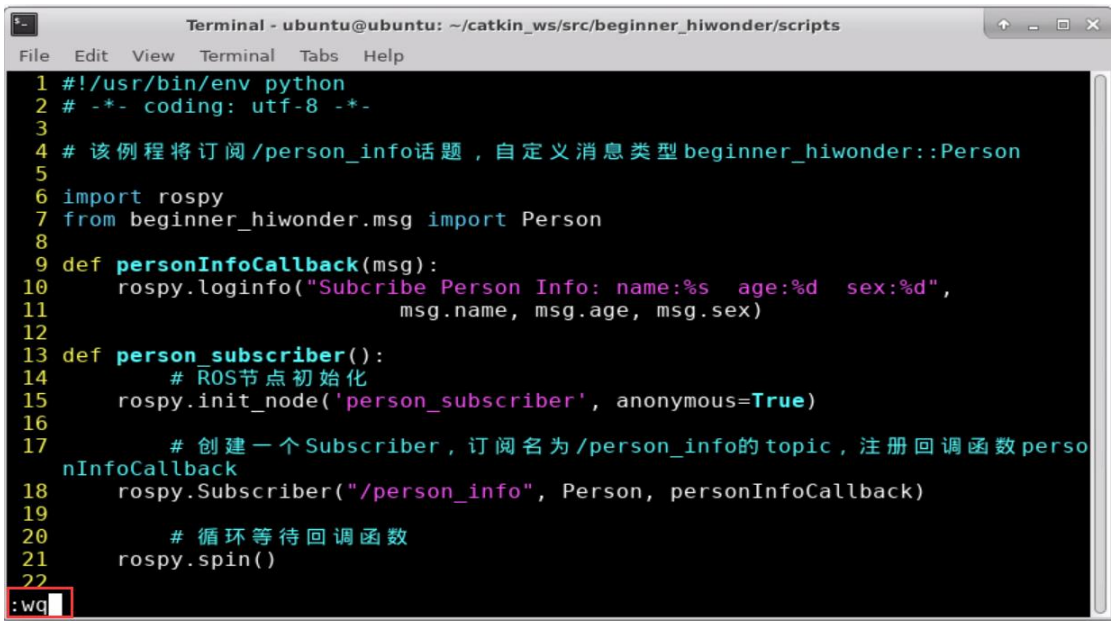
```
            velocity_publisher()

        except rospy.ROSInterruptException:

            pass
```



5) Enter “vi person_subscriber.py” to edit program, and copy the following program. If want to modify, you can press “i”. After modifying, press “Esc” and enter “:wq” to save and exit.


```
    #!/usr/bin/env python

    # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-



    # This routine will subscribe to the /person_info topic and customize the message type
beginner_hiwonder::Person



    import rospy
```

```
    from beginner_hiwonder.msg import Person



    def personInfoCallback(msg):

        rospy.loginfo("Subcribe Person Info: name:%s    age:%d    sex:%d",

                      msg.name, msg.age, msg.sex)



    def person_subscriber():

        # Initialize ROS node

        rospy.init_node('person_subscriber', anonymous=True)



        # Create a subscriber, subsribe the topic named /person_info and register the callback
funcation personInfoCallback

        rospy.Subscriber("/person_info", Person, personInfoCallback)



        # loop and wait the callback function

        rospy.spin()



    if __name__ == '__main__':

        person_subscriber()
```



6) Enter “chmod +x person_publisher.py” command and press “Enter” to give the executable permission to the saved person_publisher.py.

2.2 Run Publisher And Subscriber Nodes

1) Enter “cd ~/catkin_ws” command and press “Enter” to enter to catkin workspace.

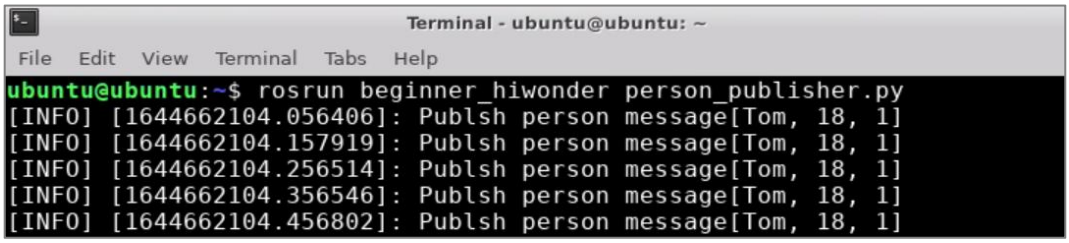
2) Enter “catkin_make” command and press “Enter” to build all the packages in directory.

3) Enter “source ./devel/setup.bash” command and press “Enter” to refresh the workspace environment.

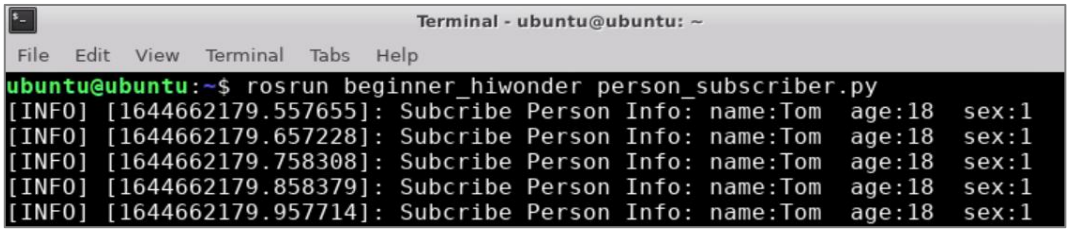
4) Enter “roscore” command to start node manager.

After starting, the prompt below will appear:

5) Enter “rosrun beginner_hiwonder person_publisher.py” command and press “Enter” to run publisher node. If want to stop running node, you can press “Ctrl+C”.



6) Open a new terminal. Enter “rosrun beginner_hiwonder person_subscriber.py” command and press “Enter” to run the subscriber node. If want to stop running node, you can press “Ctrl+C”.



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① The publisher node needs to be started first, and then the subscriber node can subscribe message.

② If need to receive the publisher messages completely, you can start the subscriber node first and then the publisher node.
