



**INFO 802**

**Master Advanced Mechatronics**

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**2022**

**ROS**

**ROS Command Tools  
Tutorial 1**

# Objectives

At the end of this lecture, you are expected to :

- Use ROS command line tools to get information on nodes, topics and message type
- Know what a ROS message is made up of.
- Find which library a ROS message comes from.
- Create a custom launch file.
- Achieve at least grade 80% of the Assignment

# ROS Command Tools

# Turtlesim

## Turtle\_teleop\_key node



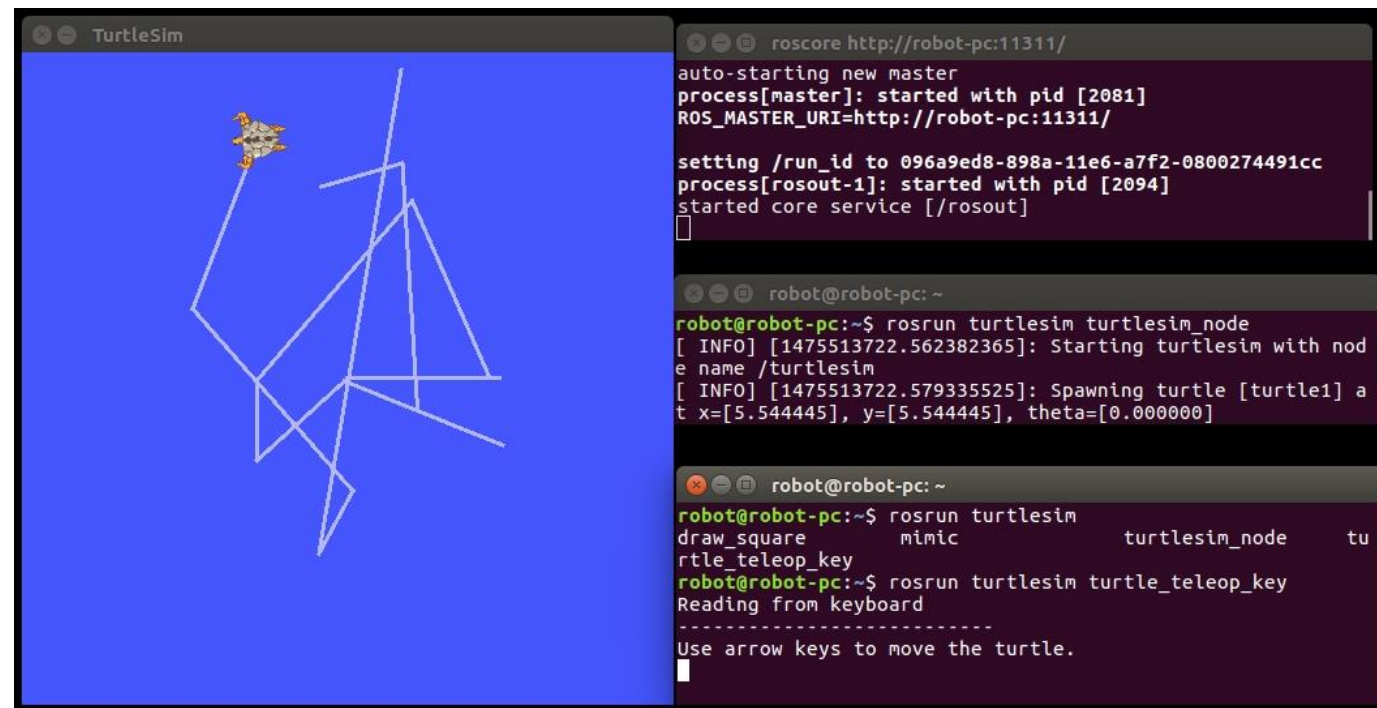
Test moving the turtle  
(with the *turtle\_teleop\_key* node)

Recall: Open a terminal for each command

```
> roscore
```

```
> rosrunc turtlesim turtlesim_node
```

```
> rosrunc turtlesim turtle_teleop_key
```



The terminal which *turtle\_teleop\_key* is running on MUST be selected.  
Change the turtle's position by pressing arrow keys on the keyboard.

# ROS Command Tools

## topic

List all active topics on ROS:

```
> rostopic list
```

```
luc@USMB: ~  
luc@USMB:~$ rostopic list  
/rosout  
/rosout_agg  
/turtle1/cmd_vel  
/turtle1/color_sensor  
/turtle1/pose  
luc@USMB:~$
```

Display which message is used on a topic:

```
> rostopic type [topic_name]
```

```
luc@USMB:~$ rostopic type /turtle1/pose  
turtlesim/Pose
```

Get more information on a topic:

```
> rostopic info [topic_name]
```

```
luc@USMB:~$ rostopic type /turtle1/pose  
Type: turtlesim/Pose  
  
Publishers:  
  * /turtlesim (http://localhost:40351/)  
  
Subscribers: None
```

# ROS Command Tools

## node

List all active node running on ROS:

```
> rosnod list
```

Display information including publication/subscription:

```
> rosnod info [node_name]
```

```
luc@USMB:~$ rosnod list
/rosout
/teleop_turtle
/turtlesim
```

```
luc@USMB:~$ rosnod info turtlesim
-----
Node [/turtlesim]
Publications:
* /rosout [rosgaph_msgs/Log]
* /turtle1/color_sensor [turtlesim/Color]
* /turtle1/pose [turtlesim/Pose]

Subscriptions:
* /turtle1/cmd_vel [geometry_msgs/Twist]

Services:
* /clear
* /kill
* /reset
* /spawn
* /turtle1/set_pen
* /turtle1/teleport_absolute
```

# ROS Command Tools

## msg

Show all messages available in ROS:

```
> rosmmsg list
```

Show the content of a message type:

```
> rosmmsg show [message_type]
```

```
ros@masterpc:~$ rosmmsg list
actionlib/TestAction
actionlib/TestActionFeedback
actionlib/TestActionGoal
actionlib/TestActionResult
actionlib/TestFeedback
actionlib/TestGoal
actionlib/TestRequestAction
actionlib/TestRequestActionFeedback
actionlib/TestRequestActionGoal
actionlib/TestRequestActionResult
actionlib/TestRequestFeedback
actionlib/TestRequestGoal
actionlib/TestRequestResult
actionlib/TestResult
actionlib/TwoIntsAction
actionlib/TwoIntsActionFeedback
actionlib/TwoIntsActionGoal
actionlib/TwoIntsActionResult
actionlib/TwoIntsFeedback
actionlib/TwoIntsGoal
actionlib/TwoIntsResult
```

```
> rosmmsg show turtlesim/Pose
```

```
luc@USMB:~$ rosmmsg show turtlesim/Pose
[turtlesim/Pose]:
float64 x
float64 y
float64 theta
float64 linear_velocity
float64 angular_velocity
```

# ROS Command Tools

## msg

See message definition information:

```
> rosmmsg show [message_type]
```

```
> rosmmsg show Pose
```

```
luc@USMB: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
luc@USMB:~$ rosmmsg show Pose  
[turtlesim/Pose]:  
float32 x  
float32 y  
float32 theta  
float32 linear_velocity  
float32 angular_velocity  
  
[geometry_msgs/Pose]:  
geometry_msgs/Point position  
  float64 x  
  float64 y  
  float64 z  
geometry_msgs/Quaternion orientation  
  float64 x  
  float64 y  
  float64 z  
  float64 w
```



The message of type *Pose* is defined in the package *turtlesim* but also in the package *geometry\_msgs* but they are not the same !



# ROS Command Tools

## System File

Get information on packages

```
> rospack find [package_name]
```

Change directory (cd) directly to a package or a stack

```
> roscd [location_name[/subdir]]
```

/s directly in a package by name rather than by absolute path

```
> rosls [location_name[/subdir]]
```

## ROS CHEAT SHEET MELODIC

### WORKSPACES

#### Create Workspace

```
mkdir catkin_ws && cd catkin_ws
wstool init src
catkin_make
source devel/setup.bash
```

#### Add Repo to Workspace

```
roscd; cd ../src
wstool set repo_name \
--git http://github.com/org/repo_name.git \
--version-melodic-devel
wstool up
```

#### Resolve Dependencies in Workspace

```
sudo rosdep init # only once
rosdep update
rosdep install --from-paths src --ignore-src \
--rosdistro=$(ROS_DISTRO) -y
```

### PACKAGES

#### Create a Package

```
catkin_create_pkg package_name [dependencies ...]
```

#### Package Folders

include/package_name	C++ header files
src	Source files. Python libraries in subdirectories
scripts	Python nodes and scripts
msg, srv, action	Message, Service, and Action definitions

#### Release Repo Packages

```
catkin_generate_changelog
# review & commit changelogs
catkin_prepare_release
bloom-release --track melodic --ros-distro melodic repo_name
```

#### Reminders

- Testable logic
- Publish diagnostics
- Desktop dependencies in a separate package

### CMakeLists.txt

#### Skeleton

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 2.8.3)
project(package_name)
find_package(catkin REQUIRED)
catkin_package()
```

#### Package Dependencies

To use headers or libraries in a package, or to use a package's exported CMake macros, express a build-time dependency:

```
find_package(catkin REQUIRED COMPONENTS roscpp)
```

Tell dependent packages what headers or libraries to pull in when your package is declared as a catkin component:

```
catkin_package(
  INCLUDE_DIRS include
  LIBRARIES ${PROJECT_NAME}
  CATKIN_DEPENDS roscpp)
```

Note that any packages listed as CATKIN\_DEPENDS dependencies must also be declared as a <run\_depend> in package.xml.

#### Messages, Services

These go after find\_package(), but before catkin\_package().

Example:

```
find_package(catkin REQUIRED COMPONENTS message_generation
std_msgs)
add_message_files(FILES MyMessage.msg)
add_service_files(FILES MyService.srv)
generate_messages(DEPENDENCIES std_msgs)
catkin_package(CATKIN_DEPENDS message_runtime std_msgs)w
```

#### Build Libraries, Executables

Goes after the catkin\_package() call.

```
add_library(${PROJECT_NAME} src/main)
add_executable(${PROJECT_NAME}_node src/main)
target_link_libraries(
  ${PROJECT_NAME}_node ${catkin_LIBRARIES})
```

#### Installation

```
install(TARGETS ${PROJECT_NAME}
  DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_LIB_DESTINATION})
install(TARGETS ${PROJECT_NAME}_node
  DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_BIN_DESTINATION})
install(PROGRAMS scripts/myScript
  DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_BIN_DESTINATION})
install(DIRECTORY launch
  DESTINATION ${CATKIN_PACKAGE_SHARE_DESTINATION})
```

## ROS.org

### RUNNING SYSTEM

Run ROS using plain:  
roscore

Alternatively, roslaunch will run its own roscore automatically if it can't find one:  
roslaunch my\_package package\_launchfile.launch

Suppress this behaviour with the --wait flag.

### Nodes, Topics, Messages

```
roscd
rostopic list
rostopic echo cmd_vel
rostopic hz cmd_vel
rostopic info cmd_vel
rostopic show geometry_msgs/Twist
```

### Remote Connection

Master's ROS environment:

- ROS\_IP or ROS\_HOSTNAME set to this machine's network address.
- ROS\_MASTER\_URI set to URI containing that IP or hostname.

Your environment:

- ROS\_IP or ROS\_HOSTNAME set to your machine's network address.
- ROS\_MASTER\_URI set to the URI from the master.

To debug, check ping from each side to the other, run roswtf on each side.

### ROS Console

Adjust using rqt\_logger\_level and monitor via rqt\_console. To enable debug output across sessions, edit the \$HOME/.ros/config/rosconsole.config and add a line for your package:  
log4j.logger.ros.package\_name=DEBUG

And then add the following to your session:  
export ROSCONSOLE\_CONFIG\_FILE=\$HOME/.ros/config/rosconsole.config

Use the roslaunch --screen flag to force all node output to the screen, as if each declared <node> had the output="screen" attribute.



www.clearpathrobotics.com/ros-cheat-sheet  
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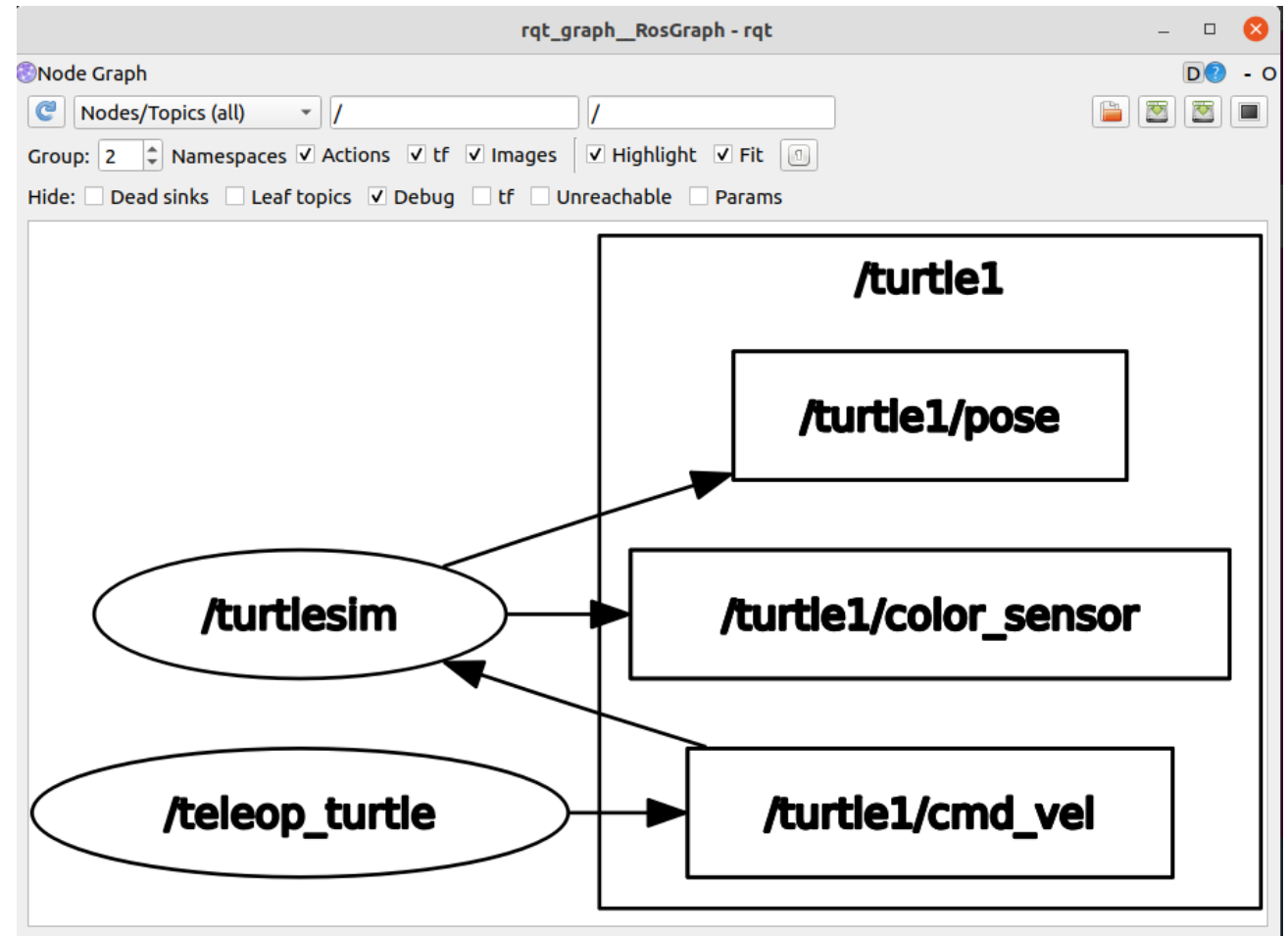
More info

<http://wiki.ros.org/ROS/Tutorials/NavigatingTheFilesystem>

# ROS computation graph *rqt*

Visualize running topics and nodes

```
> rosrun rqt_graph rqt_graph
```

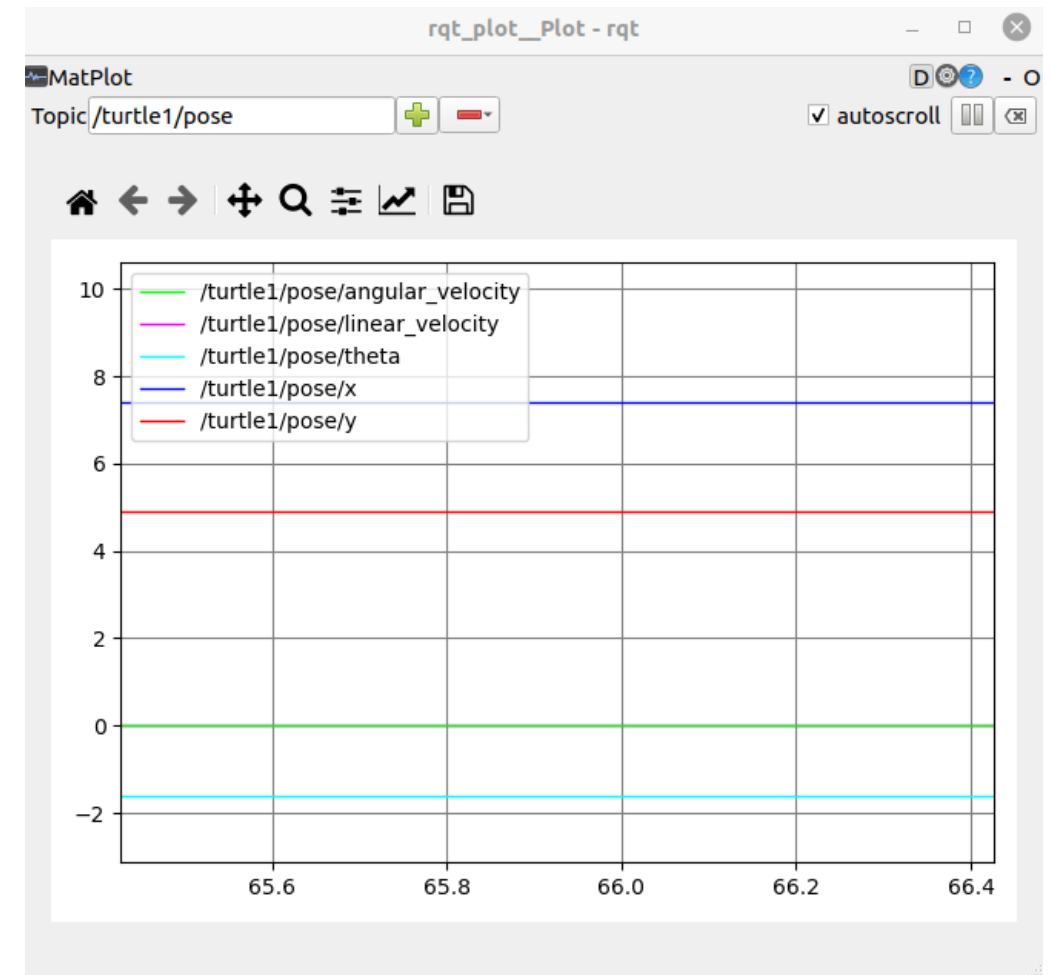
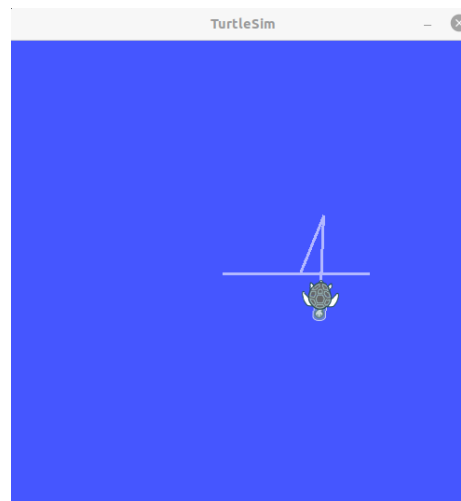


# ROS computation graph *rqt*

Visualize running topics and nodes

```
> rosrun rqt_plot rqt_plot
```

It shows the values published on a topic



# ROS computation graph *rqt*

- *rqt\_graph* creates a dynamic graph of what's going on in the system
- *rqt\_console* attaches to ROS's logging framework to display output from nodes. *rqt\_logger\_level* allows us to change the verbosity level (DEBUG, WARN, INFO, and ERROR) of nodes as they run.
- Prerequisite: Install rqt package

```
> sudo apt-get install ros-noetic-rqt ros-noetic-rqt-common-plugins
```

Launch *rqt\_console*

```
> rosrun rqt_console rqt_console
```

Launch *roslaunch rqt\_logger\_level rqt\_logger\_level* (in an other terminal)

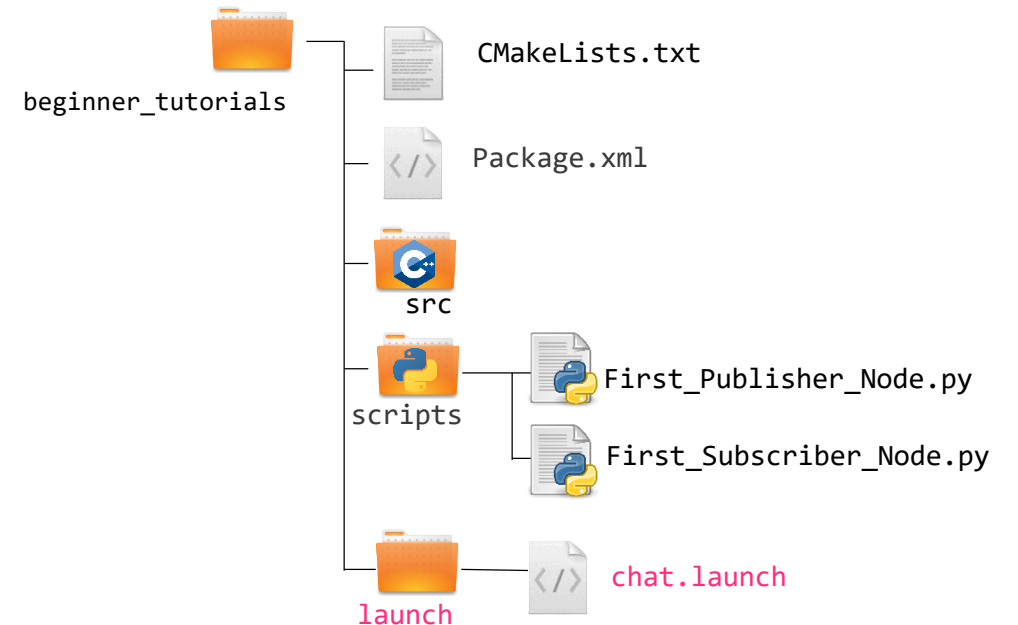
```
> roslaunch rqt_logger_level rqt_logger_level
```

# ROS Launch files



# ROS Launch

- *launch* is a tool for launching multiple nodes (as well as setting parameters)
- written in XML but file suffix: *\*.launch*
- the launch file needs to be located in a folder named “launch” inside the package folder
- If not yet running, launch automatically starts a roscore



## Example

The file *chat.launch* is created in order to launch the node :  
*First\_Publisher\_Node.py* and *First\_Subscriber\_Node.py*

**More info**

<http://wiki.ros.org/roslaunch>

# ROS Launch

Start a launch file from a package with

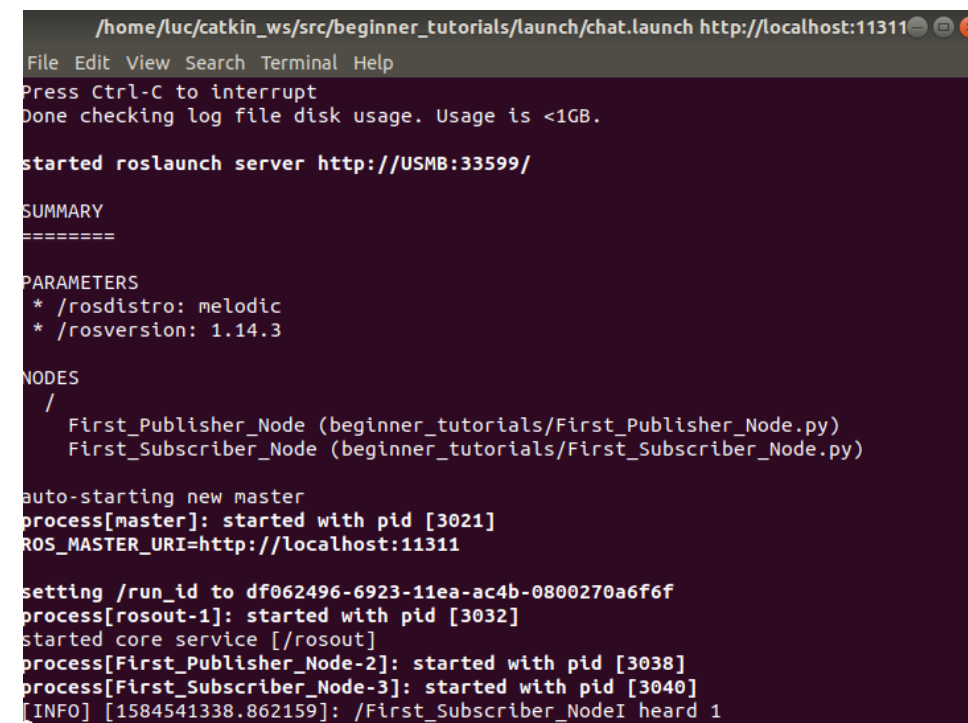
```
> roslaunch [package_name] [file_name.launch]
```

Or browse to the folder and start a launch file with

```
> roslaunch [file_name.launch]
```

Example console output for:

```
> roslaunch beginner_tutorials chat.launch
```



```
/home/luc/catkin_ws/src/beginner_tutorials/launch/chat.launch http://localhost:11311
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
Press Ctrl-C to interrupt
Done checking log file disk usage. Usage is <1GB.

started roslaunch server http://USMB:33599/

SUMMARY
=====

PARAMETERS
* /rostdistro: melodic
* /rosversion: 1.14.3

NODES
/
  First_Publisher_Node (beginner_tutorials/First_Publisher_Node.py)
  First_Subscriber_Node (beginner_tutorials/First_Subscriber_Node.py)

auto-starting new master
process[master]: started with pid [3021]
ROS_MASTER_URI=http://localhost:11311

setting /run_id to df062496-6923-11ea-ac4b-0800270a6f6f
process[rosout-1]: started with pid [3032]
started core service [/rosout]
process[First_Publisher_Node-2]: started with pid [3038]
process[First_Subscriber_Node-3]: started with pid [3040]
[INFO] [1584541338.862159]: /First_Subscriber_NodeI heard 1
```

**More info**

<http://wiki.ros.org/roslaunch>



# ROS Launch

## Other example

*Turtle.launch*

```
<launch>
  <node name="turtlesim_node" pkg="turtlesim" type="turtlesim_node"/>
  <node name="turtle_teleop_key" pkg=" turtlesim " type="turtle_teleop_key"/>
</launch>
```

- **launch**: root element of the Launch files. This is an XML document, and every XML document has one
- **node**: each <node> tag specifies a node to be launched
- **name**: name of the node (free to choose)
- **pkg**: package containing the node
- **type**: the executable name (if the executable is a python file, don't forget the **.py** extension)
- **output**: specifies where to output log messages (screen -> consol, log -> log file)  
    **output="screen"** makes the ROS log messages appear on the launch terminal window

# ROS Launch

## Other example

*Turtle.launch*

```
<launch>
  <node name="turtlesim_node" pkg="turtlesim" type="turtlesim_node"/>
  <node name="turtlesim_target_node" pkg="beginner_tutorials" type="turtlesim_target_node.py" output="screen"/>
</launch>
```

turtlesim\_node is NOT a python script

turtlesim\_target\_node.py IS a python script  
The .py extension is needed

- **launch**: root element of the Launch files. This is an XML document, and every XML document has one
- **node**: each <node> tag specifies a node to be launched
- **name**: name of the node (free to choose)
- **pkg**: package containing the node
- **type**: the executable name (if the executable is a python file, don't forget the .py extension)
- **output**: specifies where to output log messages (screen -> consol, log -> log file)  
    **output="screen"** makes the ROS log messages appear on the launch terminal window

# ROS Launch

## File Structure

if you don't put the option `output="screen"` you will not be able to see messages on the Terminal

*chat.Launch*

```
<launch>
  <node name="First_Publisher_Node" pkg="beginner_tutorials" type="First_Publisher_Node.py"/>
  <node name="First_Subscriber_Node" pkg="beginner_tutorials" type="First_Subscriber_Node.py" output="screen"/>
</launch>
```

- **launch**: root element of the Launch files. This is an XML document, and every XML document has one
- **node**: each `<node>` tag specifies a node to be launched
- **name**: name of the node (free to choose)
- **pkg**: package containing the node
- **type**: the executable name (if the executable is a python file, don't forget the `.py` extension)
- **output**: specifies where to output log messages (screen -> consol, log -> log file)  
`output="screen"` makes the ROS log messages appear on the launch terminal window

# ROS Launch

## Arguments

- Create re-usable launch files with `<arg>` tag, which works like a parameter (default optional)

```
<arg name="arg_name" default="default_value"/>
```

- Use arguments in launch file with

```
$(arg arg_name)
```

- When launching, arguments can be set with

```
> roslaunch launch_file.launch arg_name:=value
```

*range\_world.launch (simplified)*

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<launch>
  <arg name="use_sim_time" default="true"/>
  <arg name="world" default="gazebo_ros_range"/>
  <arg name="debug" default="false"/>
  <arg name="physics" default="ode"/>

  <group if="$(arg use_sim_time)">
    <param name="/use_sim_time" value="true" />
  </group>

  <include file="$(find gazebo_ros)
                                     /launch/empty_world.launch">
    <arg name="world_name" value="$(find gazebo_plugins)/
                                test/test_worlds/$(arg world).world"/>
    <arg name="debug" value="$(arg debug)"/>
    <arg name="physics" value="$(arg physics)"/>
  </include>
</launch>
```

# ROS Launch

## Including Other Launch Files

- Include other launch files with `<include>` tag to organize large projects

```
<include file="package_name"/>
```

- Find the system path to other packages with

```
$(find package_name)
```

- Pass arguments to the included file

```
<arg name="arg_name" value="value"/>
```

*range\_world.launch (simplified)*

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<launch>
  <arg name="use_sim_time" default="true"/>
  <arg name="world" default="gazebo_ros_range"/>
  <arg name="debug" default="false"/>
  <arg name="physics" default="ode"/>

  <group if="$(arg use_sim_time)">
    <param name="/use_sim_time" value="true" />
  </group>

  <include file="$(find gazebo_ros)
                                     /launch/empty_world.launch">
    <arg name="world_name" value="$(find gazebo_plugins)/
                                   test/test_worlds/$(arg world).world"/>
    <arg name="debug" value="$(arg debug)"/>
    <arg name="physics" value="$(arg physics)"/>
  </include>
</launch>
```

# Assignement



- Due to Wednesday April 8, 2020. (6pm max. deadline)
- Answer to question 1 to 5 and leave your responses on Moodle

run the node *my\_position.py* from the package *assignments\_pkg*

20%

1. Find which topic the *my\_position.py* publishes to

20%

2. Find what message is used on this topic

40%

3. Edit the node *get\_position.py* in the package *assignments* so it subscribes to the topic ...

20%

4. ... and prints in the Terminal only the y value of the coordinates.

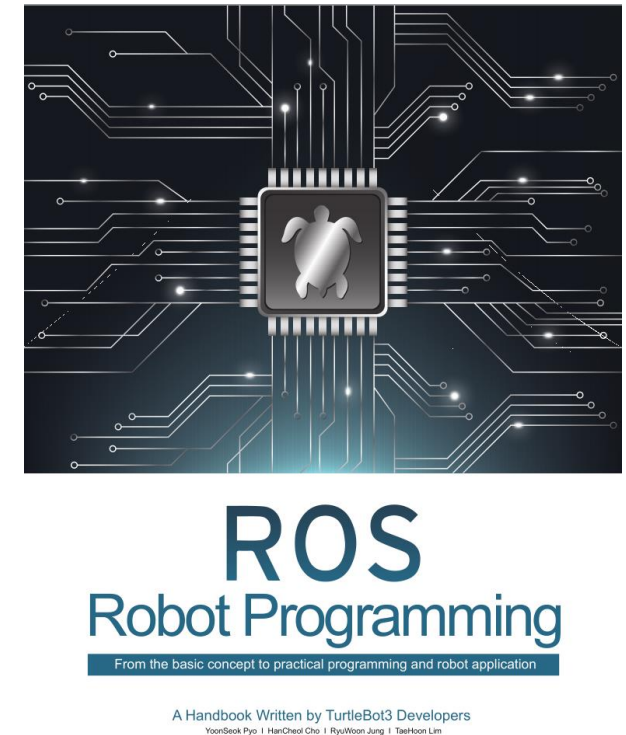
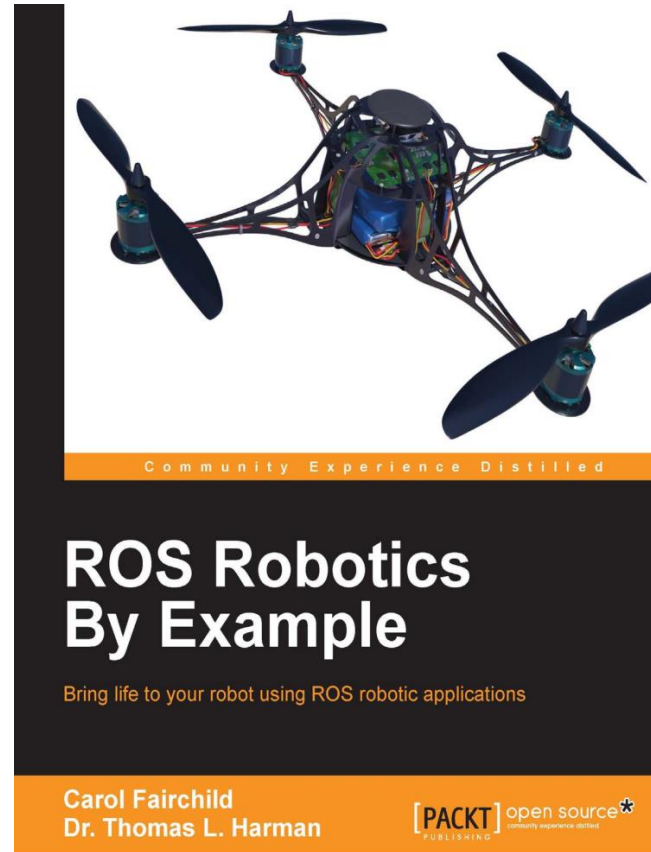
5. run and validate the node *get\_position.py*

```
ros@masterpc: ~  
ros@masterpc:~$ rosrn assignments my_position.py  
[INFO] [1618341099.528831]: The node is running and publishing  
[INFO] [1618341099.629353]: The node is running and publishing  
[INFO] [1618341099.728997]: The node is running and publishing  
[INFO] [1618341099.829251]: The node is running and publishing  
[INFO] [1618341099.929173]: The node is running and publishing
```

## Further References

- **ROS Wiki**
  - <http://wiki.ros.org/>
- **Installation**
  - <http://wiki.ros.org/ROS/Installation>
- **Tutorials**
  - <http://wiki.ros.org/ROS/Tutorials>
- **Available packages**
  - <http://www.ros.org/browse/>
- **ROS Cheat Sheet**
  - <https://www.clearpathrobotics.com/ros-robot-operating-system-cheat-sheet/>
  - [https://kapeli.com/cheat\\_sheets/ROS.docset/](https://kapeli.com/cheat_sheets/ROS.docset/)
- **ROS Best Practices**
  - [https://github.com/leggedrobotics/ros\\_best\\_practices/wiki](https://github.com/leggedrobotics/ros_best_practices/wiki)
- **ROS Package Template**
  - [https://github.com/leggedrobotics/ros\\_best\\_practices/tree/master/ros\\_package\\_template](https://github.com/leggedrobotics/ros_best_practices/tree/master/ros_package_template)

## Relevant books





## Contact Information

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SYMME