



Multicopter Design and Control Practice Experiments

RflySim Advanced Courses Lesson 06: Vision-Based Control

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Content

1. Setup Instructions
2. Use of basic interface
3. Examples of monocular vision control
4. Examples of binocular vision control
5. Summary

Path of demo source code of this lesson: RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI



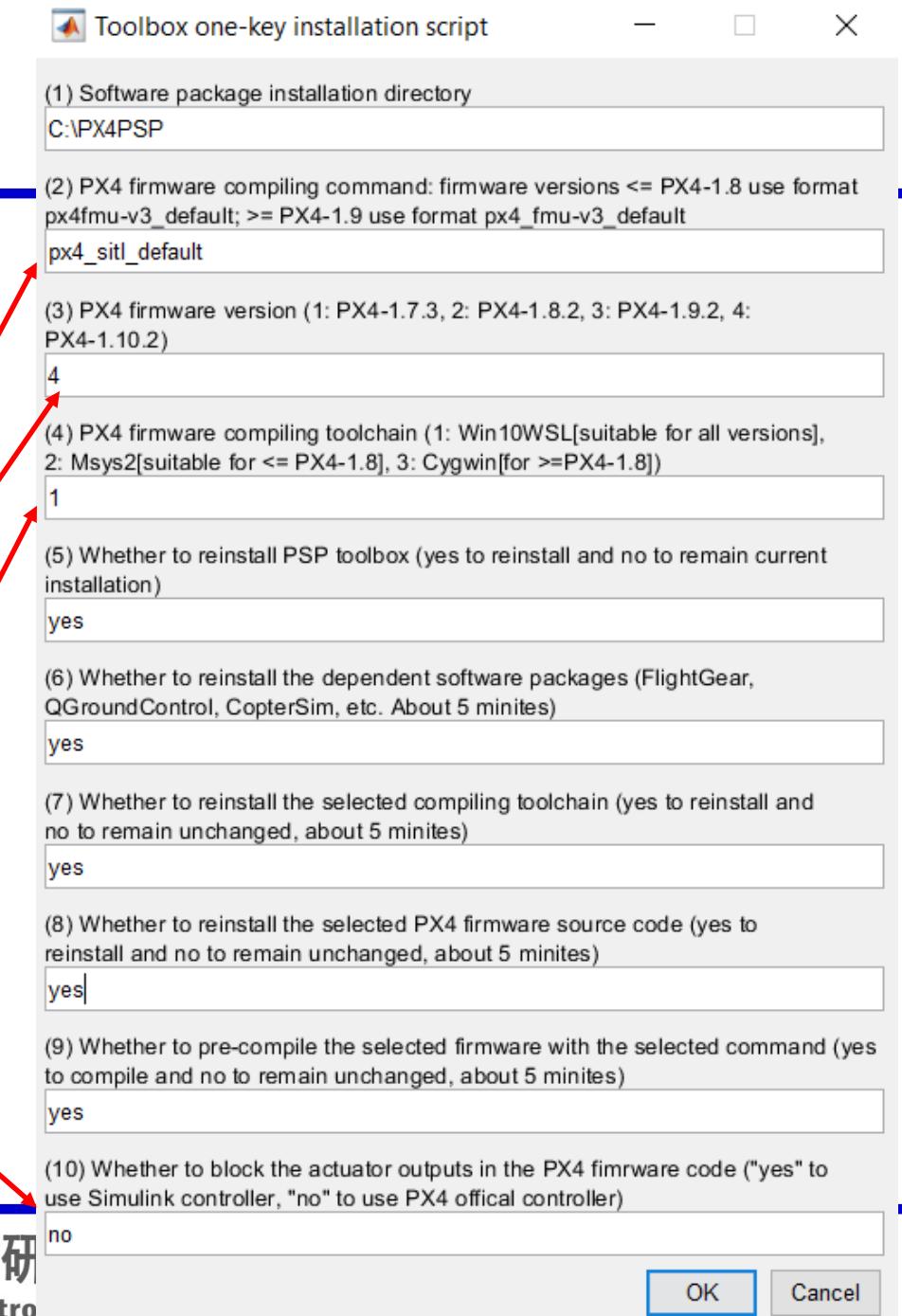


1. Setup Instructions

1.1 RflySim platform configuration

- When this platform is used for vision controller development, it is recommended to re-run the "**OnekeyScript.p**" script and use the configuration as the right figure to run the script as follows:
- Use the PX4 SITL software-in-the-loop firmware to compile and enter command "**px4_sitl_default**"
- Use the latest PX4 firmware **PX4-1.10.2**, select "**4**" for the firmware version
- Use **Win10WSL** compiler, so select "**1**" for the compiler
- Whether to shield PX4 output items, select "**no**"
- Click the "**OK**" button to start the installation.

If you want to use Pixhawk for Hardware-In-the-Loop (HIL) simulation, you also need to correctly configure the Pixhawk autopilot through QGC according to the method in **Section 2.5** of "**RflySim_Lesson_01_Introduction.pdf**".

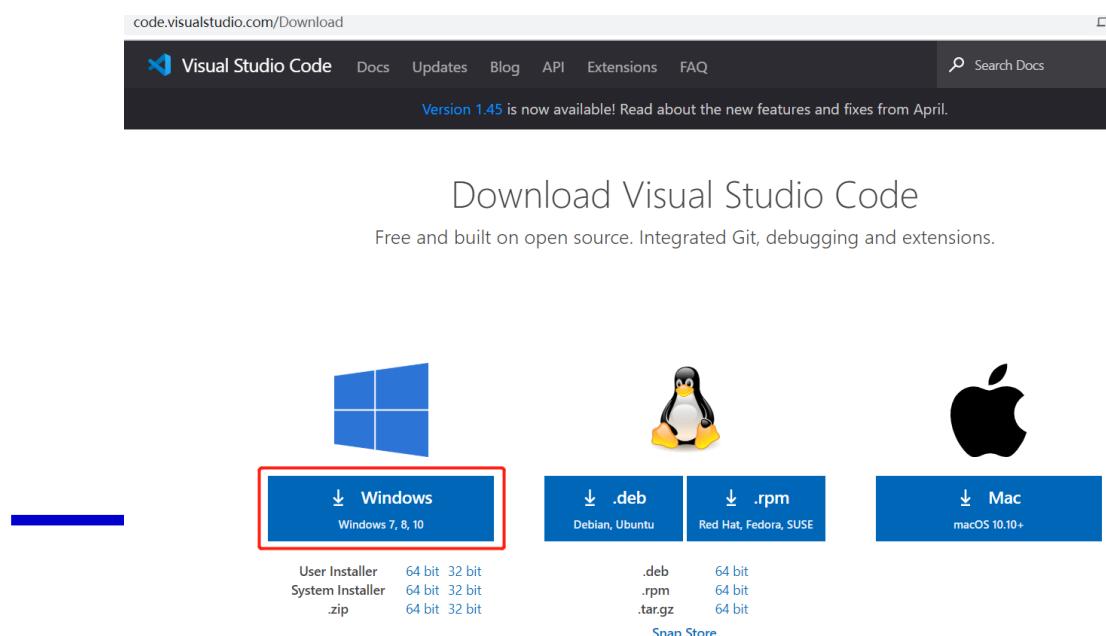




1. Setup Instructions

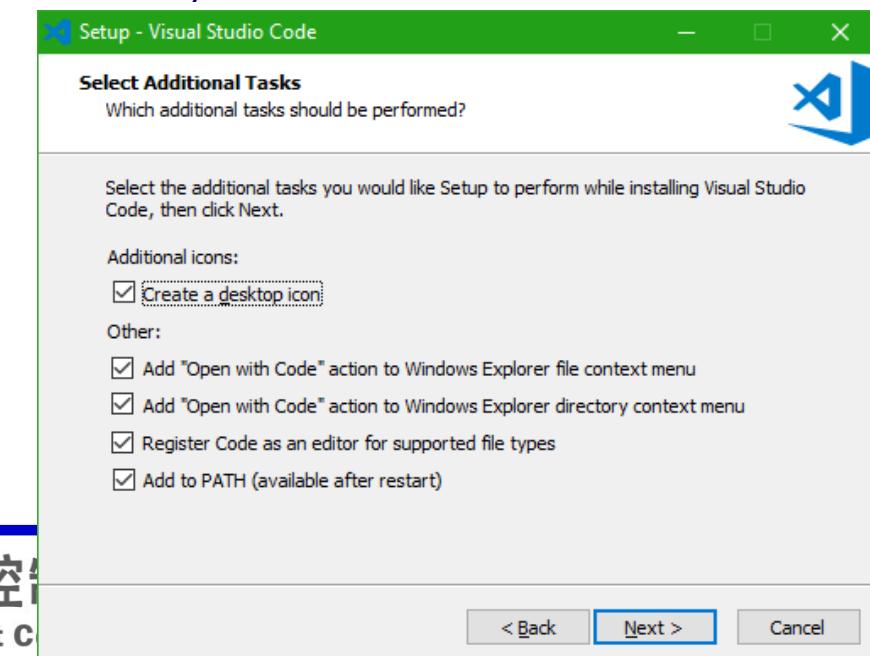
1.2 VS Code editor installation

- The Python editor of this course recommends using **VS Code** (not necessary, but easy to read the source code and run), the installation steps are as follows:
- Visit <https://code.visualstudio.com/Download> to download the latest VS code installation package (you can also use **VSCodeUserSetup-x64-***.exe** in the **RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI** folder)
- When installing, just select the default configuration. Pay attention to the settings in the lower right figure to facilitate opening Python files directly.



The screenshot shows the official Visual Studio Code download page at code.visualstudio.com/Download. The page has a dark header with links for Visual Studio Code, Docs, Updates, Blog, API, Extensions, and FAQ. A search bar and a 'Download' button are also present. Below the header, a message indicates 'Version 1.45 is now available! Read about the new features and fixes from April.' The main content area is titled 'Download Visual Studio Code' and describes it as 'Free and built on open source. Integrated Git, debugging and extensions.' It features icons for Windows, Linux (Ubuntu), and macOS. The Windows download button is highlighted with a red border. Below the download buttons, there is information about User Installer and System Installer options for Windows, and file formats for Linux and macOS.

| Platform | User Installer | System Installer | File Format |
|----------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Windows | 64 bit 32 bit | .zip | .deb .rpm .tar.gz |
| Linux | 64 bit 32 bit | .deb .rpm .tar.gz | 64 bit |
| macOS | macOS 10.10+ | | |

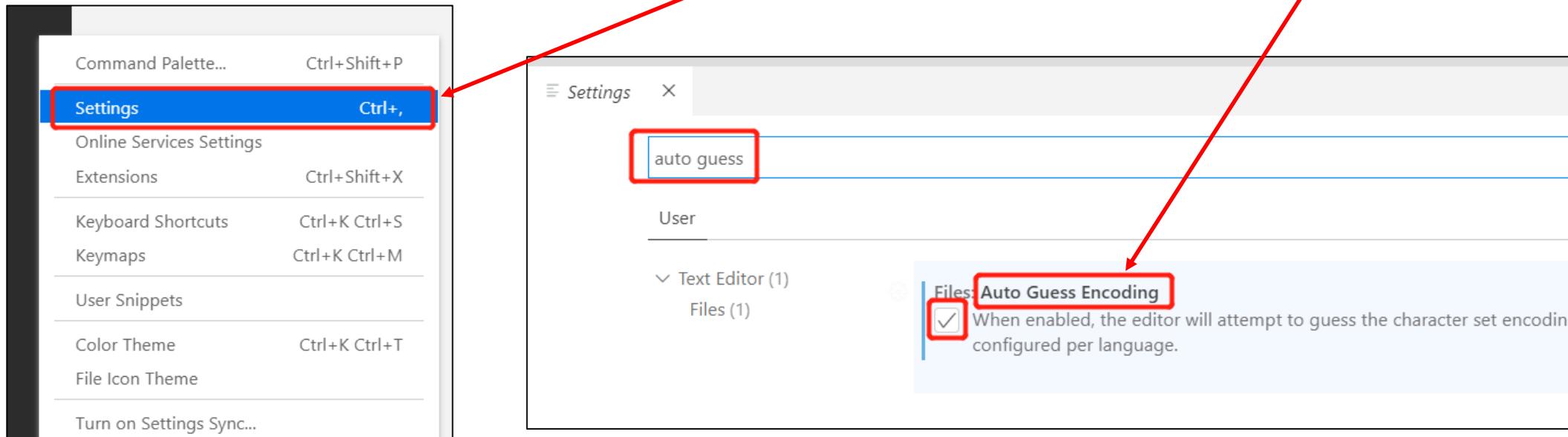
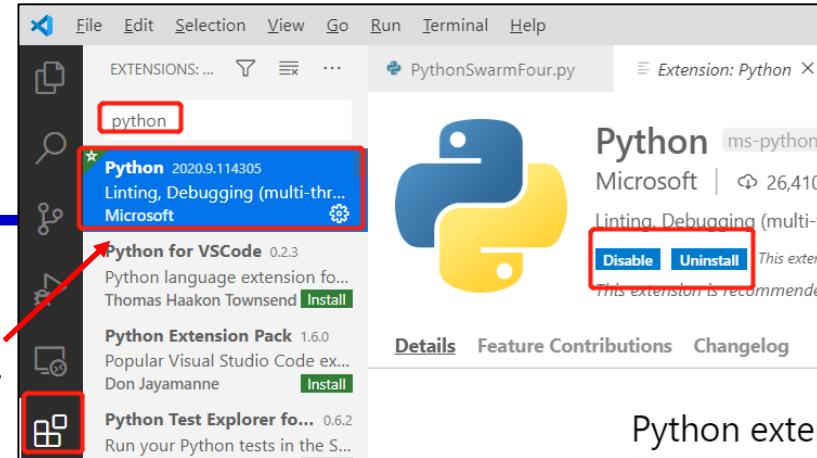




1. Setup Instructions

1.3 VS Code editor configuration

- Go to VS Code “**Extensions**” page, search and install “**Python**”.
- Automatically identify file encoding (solve the problem of Chinese gibberish characters). Open VS Code, click **setting icon** and then “**Settings**” button; or click Menu bar: **File** → **Preferences** → **Settings** → Search for “**auto guess**”, check to enable automatic guessing of file encoding function

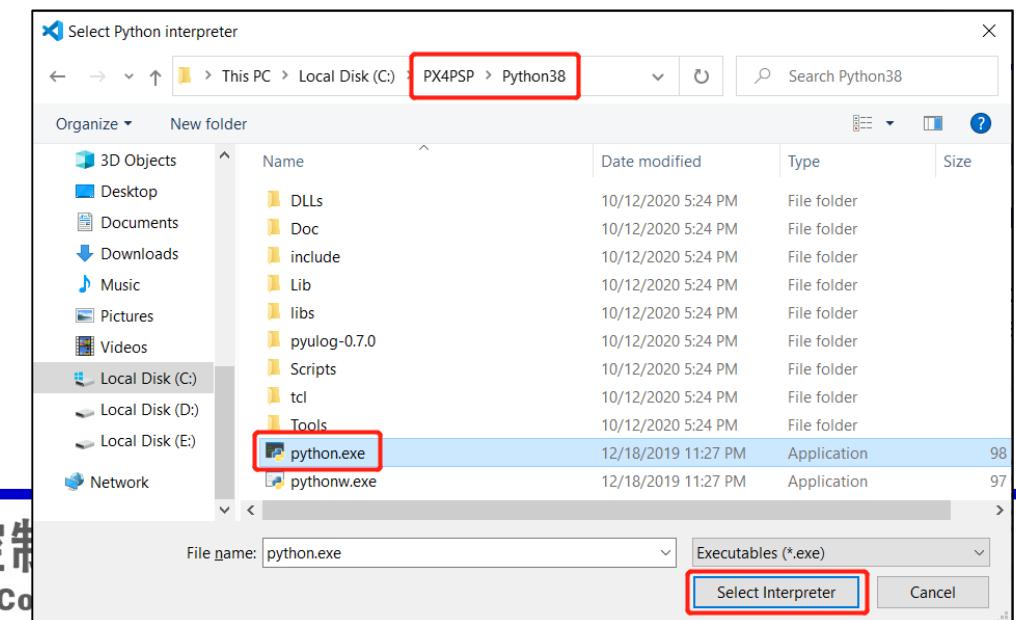
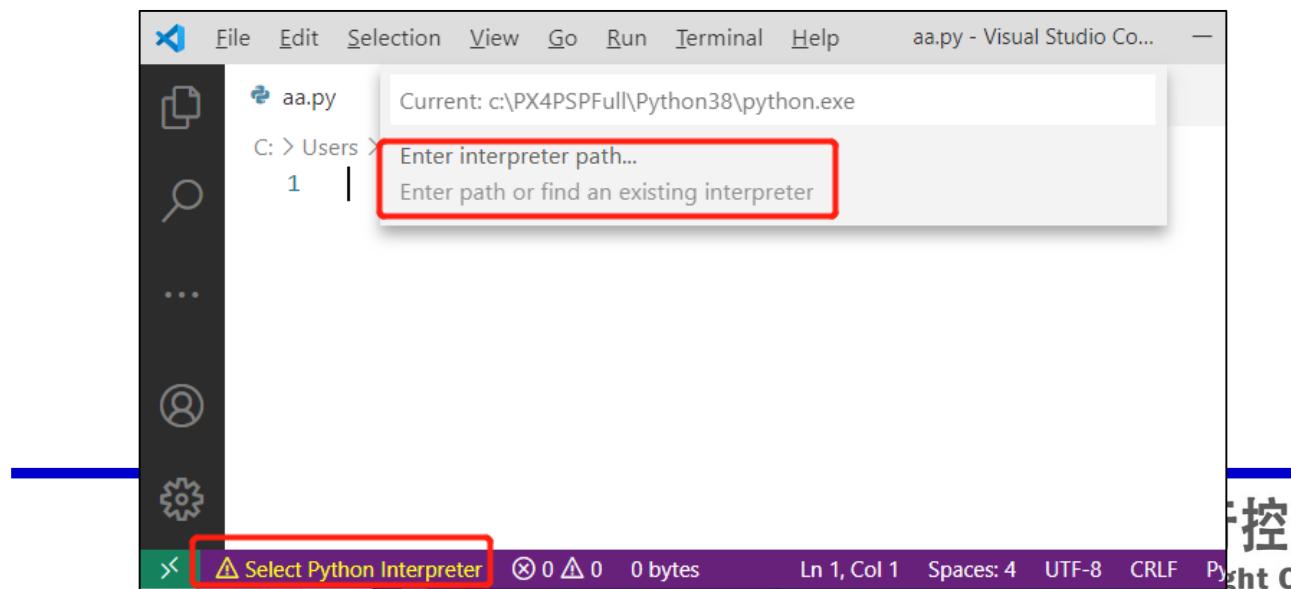




1. Setup Instructions

1.4 VS Code Python environment configuration

- Open the "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts\ImgCVShow.py**" file (or any **.py** suffix file) with VS code. As shown in the figure below, click the yellow word "**Select Python interpreter**" option in the lower left corner, and click "**Enter interpreter path**" in the pop-up item.
- As shown in the figure on the right, in the pop-up explorer window, select the **python.exe** file in the **Python38** folder under the installation directory (default **C:\PX4PSP**), and click "**Select Interpreter**".





1. Setup Instructions

1.4 VS Code Python program running

- Open the "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts\ImgCVShow.py**" file with VS Code.
- Click the **triangle arrow** on the upper right side of VS Code to run, and the terminal window of '**TERMINAL**' pops up at the bottom of the VS Code interface to check the running status of the script. At the same time, a picture shown in the lower right pops up, indicating that the environment is installed correctly.

The screenshot shows the VS Code interface. On the left is the code editor with the Python script `ImgCVShow.py`. The script contains the following code:

```
1 import cv2
2 import sys
3
4 img = cv2.imread(sys.path[0]+'\im_opencv.jpg',1)
5
6 cv2.imshow("showing",img)
7 cv2.waitKey(0)
8 cv2.destroyAllWindows()
```

A red box highlights the terminal window at the bottom, labeled "2. Pop-up Terminal Window". Inside the terminal window, a red box highlights the green "Run" button (a triangle icon) on the right, labeled "1. Click the 'Run' button". The terminal output shows:

```
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
Try the new cross-platform PowerShell https://aka.ms/pscore6
PS C:\Users\dream> & c:/PX4PSPFull/Python38/python.exe c:/PX4PSP
Full/RflySimAPIs/Python38Scripts/ImgCVShow.py
```

At the bottom, the status bar indicates "Python 3.8.1 64-bit" and "144 bytes".

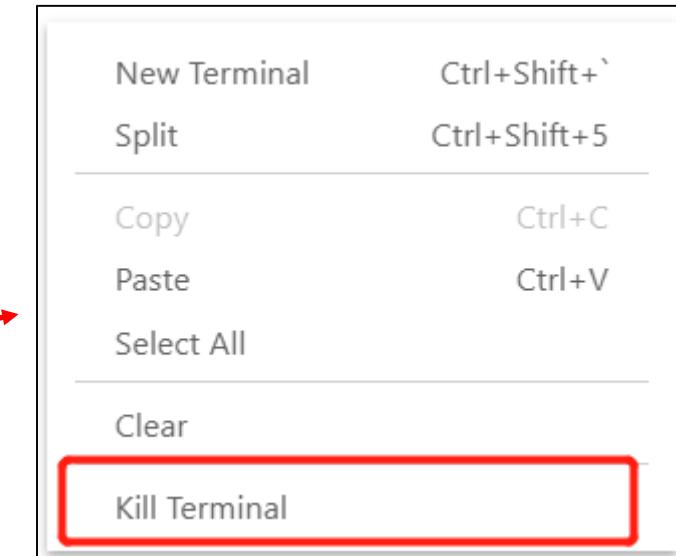
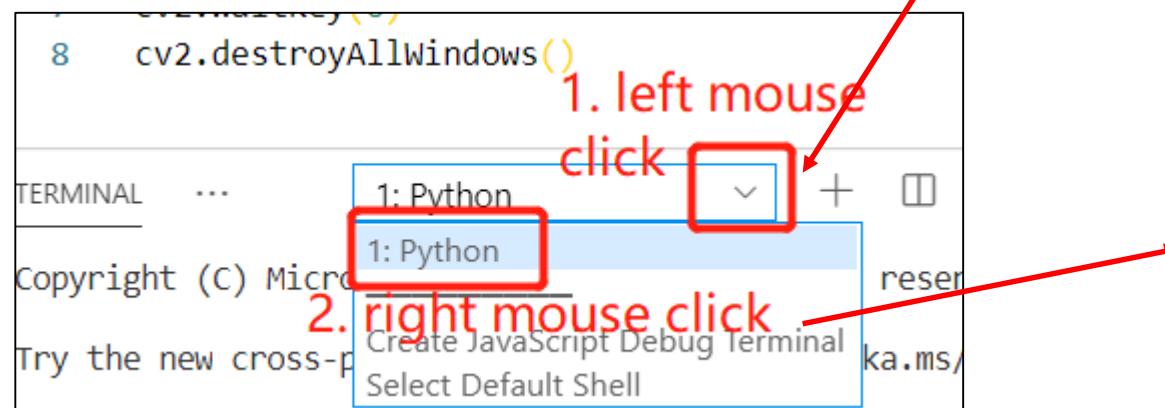




1. Setup Instructions

1.5 VS Code Python program force close

- As shown on the left, click the down triangle arrow next to the Python button at the bottom right to expand and display all terminal windows, and press the right mouse button on the current terminal window entry ("1: Python" in the figure below). As shown in the figure on the right, click "Kill Terminal" in the pop-up menu to terminate the Python program.





1. Setup Instructions

1.6 Python38Env environment

- The **Python38** folder under the installation directory (**C: \PX4PSP** by default) contains the latest Python operating environment, which already contains a series of tools such as **OpenCV**, **pymavlink**, **pip** and etc., which can be directly used for basic top-level control algorithm development for drone
- This Python environment is completely independent from other environments installed on Windows. Also, not affect other Python environments or be affected by their configuration.
- Double-click the desktop "**Python38Env**" shortcut or double-click the "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Env.bat**" script, the terminal window shown below (registered Python directory) will pop up, and the Python environment can be called

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
Python3.8 environment has been set with openCV+pymavlink+numpy+pyuLog etc.
You can use pip or pip3 command to install other libraries
Put your python scripts 'XXX.py' into the folder 'C:\PX4PSPFull\RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts'
Use the command: 'python XXX.py' to run the script with Python
For example, try entering 'python ImgCVShow.py' below to use OpenCV to read and show a image
You can also use pyuLog (see https://github.com/PX4/pyuLog) to convert PX4 log file
For example, try entering 'ulog2csv log.ulg' to convert ulg file to excel files for MATLAB

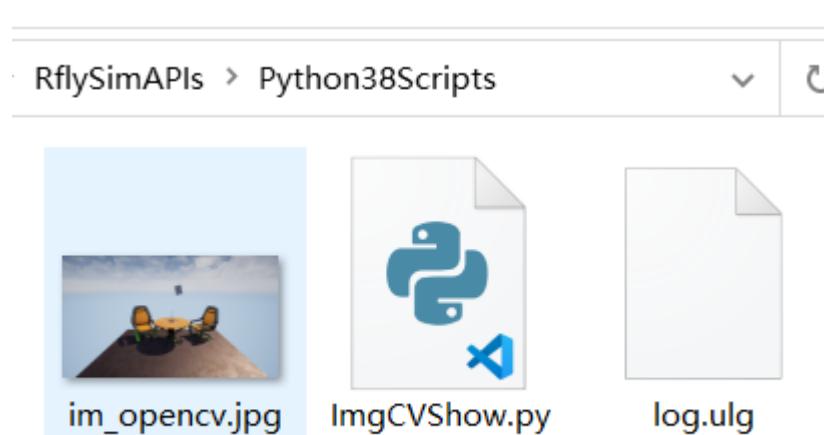
C:\PX4PSPFull\RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts> Input commands at here
```



1. Setup Instructions

1.7 Use of Python38Env

- The root directory of this Python environment is "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts**", copy the Python script file *****.py** ending in **.py** to this folder, and then execute the command "**python ***.py**" to run the script
- For example: enter the command "**python ImgCVShow.py**" to run the python script and open an image like the example in **Section 1.4**.



```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe - python ImgCVShow.py
Python3.8 environment has been set with openCV+pymavlink+numpy+py
You can use pip or pip3 command to install other libraries
Put your python scripts 'XXX.py' into the folder 'C:\PX4PSPFull\R
Use the command: 'python XXX.py' to run the script with Python
For example, try entering 'python ImgCVShow.py' below to use Open
You can also use pyulog (see https://github.com/PX4/pyulog) to co
For example, try entering 'ulog2csv log.ulg' to convert ulg file
C:\PX4PSPFull\RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts>python ImgCVShow.py
```

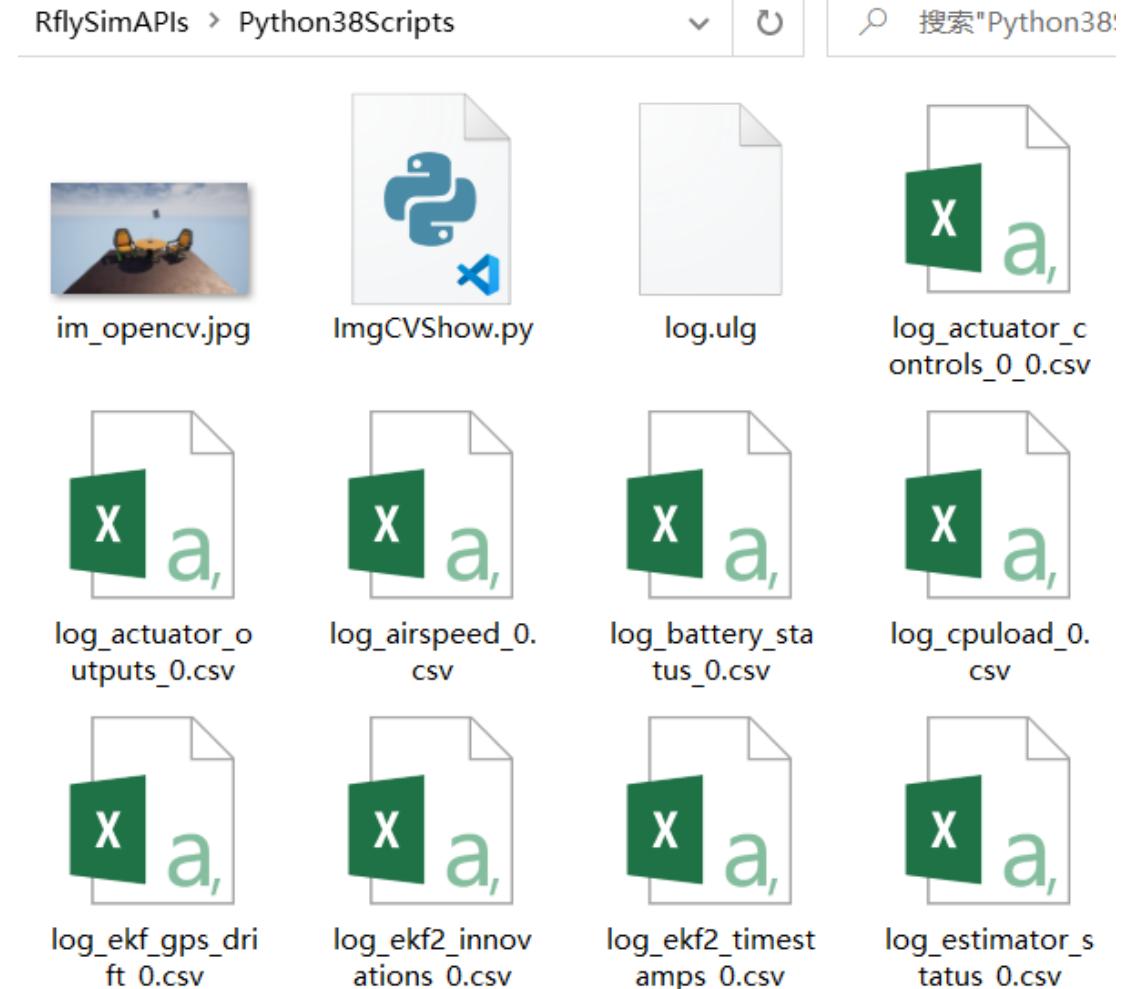




1. Setup Instructions

1.8 Python38Env environment ulog log reading

- This Python environment has installed pyulog, which can be used to parse the PX4 controller's **.ulg** format logs and generate excel files, which can be used for log data analysis.
- Since a "**log.ulg**" file has been stored in the "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts**" folder, you can directly double-click "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Env.bat**" to open the Python environment, and enter "**ulog2csv log.ulg**" to get the log file
- These files can be opened with Excel, MATLAB or other statistical analysis software for flight data analysis.





1. Setup Instructions

1.9 Python38Env function extension

- This Python environment has installed **OpenCV**, **Pymavlink**, **numpy**, **pyulog** and other module libraries, and supports the installation of other components.
- The installation of other components can be installed with the **pip install ***** command
- The current Python libraries commonly used include **Scipy**, **Pillow**, **Matplotlib**, **Panda**. Take the installation of Scipy as an example, just double-click the "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Env.bat**" file and enter "**pip install scipy**" in the command line to automatically download and complete the installation
- Users can test and install other modules/libraries by themselves

```
C:\PX4PSPFull\RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts>pip install scipy
Collecting scipy
  Downloading scipy-1.5.2-cp38-cp38-win_amd64.whl (31.4 MB)
    |████████| 31.4 MB 312 kB/s
Requirement already satisfied: numpy>=1.14.5 in c:\px4psfull\python38\lib\site-packages (from scipy) (1.18.1)
Installing collected packages: scipy
Successfully installed scipy-1.5.2
C:\PX4PSPFull\RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts>
```

A screenshot of a Windows Command Prompt window titled "cmd C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe". The command "pip install scipy" is entered at the prompt. The output shows the package being downloaded from the internet, the requirement for numpy being satisfied, and the successful installation of scipy-1.5.2. The entire command line and its output are highlighted with a red rectangular box.

If the online installation is too slow (poor network or the installation package too large), you can go to <https://pypi.org/> to search and download the installation package file in *****.whl** format offline, and copy the *****.whl** file to "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts**" directory, and then use the command "**pip install ***.whl**" to install offline

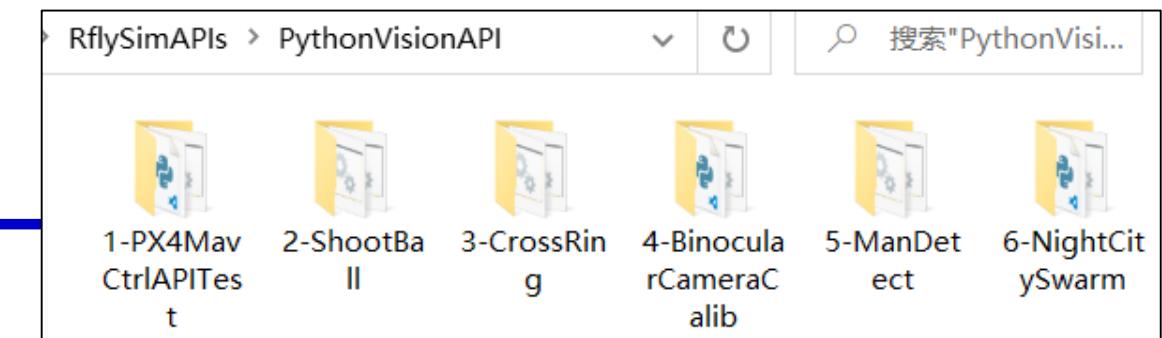




1. Setup Instructions

1.10 Operation of vision control demo

- The vision control demos of this course are stored in the "**RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI**" path. These demos can be run using VS Code or **Python38Env**.
- Suppose you want to run the "**2-ShootBall\ShootBall3.py**" example script in the "**RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI**" directory. The first method is to open the **ShootBall3.py** file with VS Code, and then run it directly according to the method in **Section 1.4**.
- The second method is to double-click to open the "**RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI\Python38Run.bat**" file, and enter: "**python 2-ShootBall\ShootBall3.py**" in the pop-up window to run this script



```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
```

```
Python3.8 environment has been set with openCV+pymavlink+numpy+pyuolog etc.  
You can use pip or pip3 command to install other libraries  
Put your python scripts 'XXX.py' into the folder 'C:\PX4PSPVision\RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI'  
Use the command: 'python XXX.py' to run the script with Python
```

```
C:\PX4PSPVision\RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI>python 2-ShootBall\ShootBall3.py
```



1. Setup Instructions

1.11 vision simulation difficulties and RflySim platform solutions

- Question 1: How to achieve high-speed image capture?
 - Solution: Don't take pictures inside the UE4 program (Airsim uses this method, and the image acquisition will cause serious frame drop). Use Python/C/Simulink to directly read RflySim3D images, reducing intermediate links, and 720P multi-window image reading consumes time Within 5ms (above 200Hz), and will not interfere with UE4 rendering efficiency
- Question 2: How to achieve multi-lens camera acquisition?
 - Solution: Support to open any RflySim3D window, and each window can be independently configured to display the viewing angle (airborne camera or ground observation viewing angle and etc.)
- Question 3: How to configure the resolution, camera position, and which vehicle to take pictures?
 - Solution: It supports adjustment via keyboard shortcuts, and also supports sending commands via UDP to control the viewing angle display parameters of RflySim3D.
- Question 4: How to ensure that the simulation results can be directly used in the real vehicle?
 - Solution: The bottom layer of the control interface we provide can directly send and receive MAVLink data. Since the cross-platform Python language is used, it can be used directly by copying the airborne computer. (Follow-up will provide Simulink vision interface to support code generation)



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2. Use of basic interfaces

2.1 The simplest Python3 file running test

- In the "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts**" folder, create a new txt file and rename it to **hello.py**
- Right-click the file, open it with VS Code, and type the following code in it:
print("Hello, RflySim!")
- Run in VS Code, check the result as shown on the right
- In the same way, double-click the **Python38Env** desktop shortcut or "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Env.bat**" to view the running results as shown below.

1. Input Python script

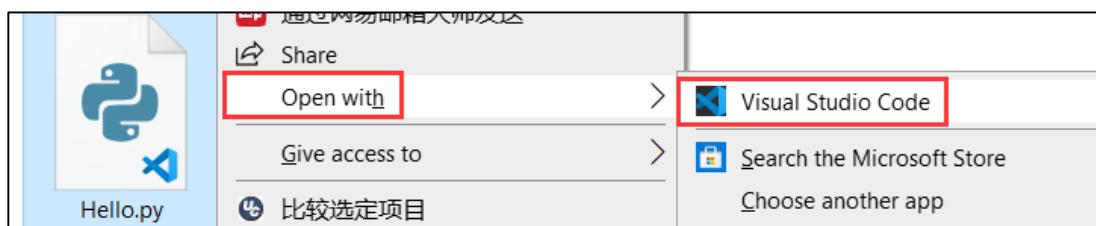
2. Click Run button

3. Pop up Terminal window

4. Check the output

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
Python3.8 environment has been set with openCV+pymavlink+nu...
You can use pip or pip3 command to install other libraries...
Put your python scripts 'XXX.py' into the folder 'C:\PX4PSP...
Use the command: 'python XXX.py' to run the script with Pyt...
For example, try entering 'python ImgCVShow.py' below to us...
You can also use pyulog (see https://github.com/PX4/pyulog)
For example, try entering 'ulog2csv log.ulg' to convert ulg

C:\PY4PSFfull\RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts>python hello.py
Hello, RflySim!
```

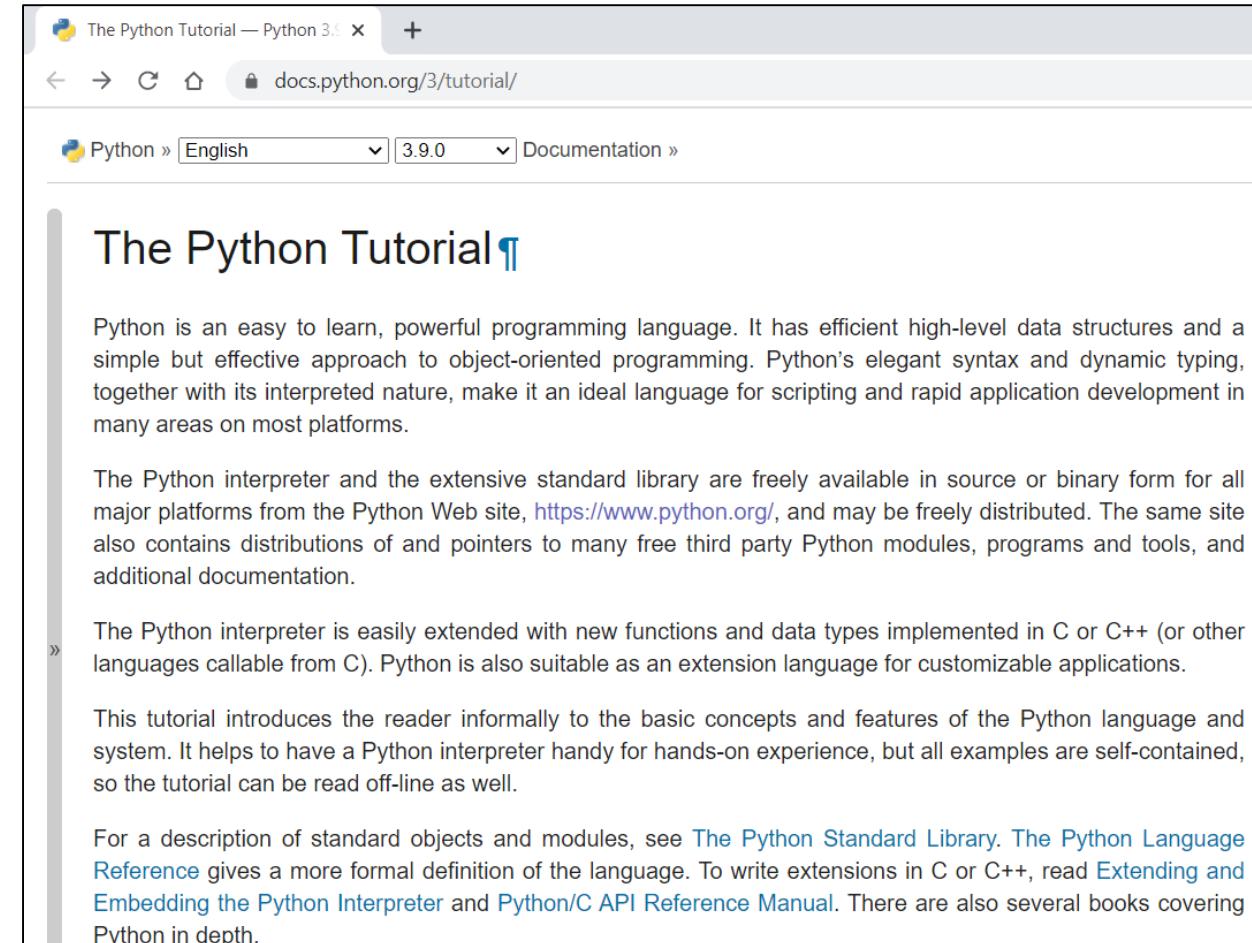




2. Use of basic interface

2.2 Basic Python3 syntax learning

- Visit: <https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/> to understand the basic knowledge and programming method of learning Python3 (similar to MATLAB language) easy to get started
- **Note:** Python2 has stopped updating, it is recommended that you learn Python3 directly for development
- Python3 uses UTF-8 encoding by default, so non-english characters are natively supported
- Python uses indentation to distinguish code levels, so you must pay attention to indentation when writing code (Guides, indent-rainbow and other plugins can be installed in VS Code to assist)



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Python Tutorial at docs.python.org/3/tutorial/. The page is titled "The Python Tutorial" and features an introduction to the Python language, highlighting its ease of learning, powerful features, and object-oriented nature. It also mentions the availability of the Python interpreter and standard library across major platforms and the extensibility of Python through C or C++ extensions.





2. Use of basic interface

2.3 Basic Python-OpenCV learning

- **OpenCV** is an open source cross-platform computer vision and machine learning software library, widely used
- Official tutorial URL: <https://docs.opencv.org/4.0.0/>

A screenshot of the OpenCV 4.0.0 documentation website. The top navigation bar includes the OpenCV logo, version 4.0.0, and links for Main Page, Related Pages, Modules, Namespaces, Classes, Files, and Examples. Below the navigation is a search bar and a link to Java documentation. The main content area is titled "OpenCV modules" and lists various modules and resources:

- Introduction
- OpenCV Tutorials
- OpenCV-Python Tutorials
- OpenCV.js Tutorials
- Tutorials for contrib modules
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Bibliography
- Main modules:
 - core. **Core** functionality
 - imgproc. **Image Processing**
 - imgcodecs. **Image file reading and writing**
 - videoio. **Video I/O**
 - highgui. **High-level GUI**
 - video. **Video Analysis**
 - calib3d. **Camera Calibration and 3D Reconstruction**
 - features2d. **2D Features Framework**
 - objdetect. **Object Detection**
 - dnn. **Deep Neural Network module**
 - ml. **Machine Learning**





2. Use of basic interface

2.4 Pymavlink learning

- **Pymavlink** is the Python version of the MAVLink communication protocol. It is currently pre-installed in the platform Python environment. It can easily communicate with the real Pixhawk hardware through serial port, UDP, TCP and etc., for top-level control
- The official document URL is as follows:
https://mavlink.io/en/mavgen_python.html. Please learn its detailed use instructions by yourself
- **Note:** Pymavlink is just a convenient library function. If you have higher customize requirements, you need to learn how to use the MAVLink protocol

Using Pymavlink Libraries (mavgen)

Pymavlink is a *low level* and *general purpose* MAVLink message processing library, written for many types of MAVLink systems, including a GCS (MAVProxy), Developer APIs (DroneKit-Python) and more.

The library can be used with Python 2.7+ (recommended) or Python 3.5+ and supports both C and Python interfaces.

This topic explains how to get and use the *Pymavlink* MAVLink Python libraries (generated from the MAVLink message definitions).



Pymavlink is developed in its own [project](#), which includes the command line [mavgen](#) tool and other useful tools and utilities. MAVLink includes the [Pymavlink](#) repository. The documentation explains how to work with *pymavlink using the MAVLink protocol*.



If you're writing a MAVLink application to communicate with an autopilot you might want to use [DroneKit-Python](#). These implement a number of [MAVLink microservices](#).

Getting Libraries

If you need a [standard dialect](#) then you can install these (for both MAVLink 1 and 2) with [pip](#):





2. Use of basic interface

2.5 Introduction to the Python control interface in RflySim

- The "**RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI\1-PX4MavCtrlIAPITest\PX4MavCtrlV4.py**" file is the Python control interface file of the RflySim platform
- This interface includes interfaces for sending and receiving MAVLink messages, UE4 scene control, and Pixhawk Offboard control.
- The underlying data of this interface is in MAVLink format, which can be connected to the RflySim system for software/hardware-in-the-loop simulation, or can be connected to real Pixhawk hardware (via serial port or UDP network) for real vehicle control.

```
PX4MavCtrlV4.py
C: > PX4PSPFull > RflySimAPIs > PythonVisionAPI > 1-PX4MavCtrlIAPITest > PX4MavCtrlV4.py
1 import socket
2 import threading
3 import time
4 from pymavlink import mavutil
5 from pymavlink.dialects.v20 import common as mavutil.common
6 import struct
7
8
9 class PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE:
10     PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE_MANUAL = 1
11     PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE_ALTCTL = 2
12     PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE_POSCTL = 3
13     PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE_AUTO = 4
14     PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE_ACRO = 5
15     PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE_OFFBOARD = 6
16     PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE_STABILIZED = 7
17     PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE_RATTITUDE = 8
18     PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE_SIMPLE = 9
19
20 class PX4_CUSTOM_SUB_MODE_AUTO:
21     PX4_CUSTOM_SUB_MODE_AUTO_READY = 1
22     PX4_CUSTOM_SUB_MODE_AUTO_TAKEOFF = 2
23     PX4_CUSTOM_SUB_MODE_AUTO_LOITER = 3
24     PX4_CUSTOM_SUB_MODE_AUTO_MISSION = 4
25     PX4_CUSTOM_SUB_MODE_AUTO_RTL = 5
26     PX4_CUSTOM_SUB_MODE_AUTO_LAND = 6
27     PX4_CUSTOM_SUB_MODE_AUTO_RTGS = 7
```





2. Use of basic interface

```
self.uavAngEular = [0, 0, 0]
self.uavAngRate = [0, 0, 0] Pixhawk real-time state
self.uavPosNED = [0, 0, 0] data from MAVLink
self.uavVelNED = [0, 0, 0]
```

2.6 Internal principle of PX4MavCtrlV4

- **class PX4_CUSTOM_MAIN_MODE:** #PX4 main module enumerated variable, used to set the mode
- **class PX4_CUSTOM_SUB_MODE_AUTO:** #PX4 submodule enumeration variable
- **class PX4MavCtrler:** # RflySim's main communication interface class
- **def InitMavLoop:** #Enable MAVLink receiving thread, receive and update MAVLink messages at any time
- **def sat:** #A saturation function, used to control the limit of the variable
- **def SendMavCmdLong:** #Send the COMMAND_LONG message of the MAVLink message
- **def sendMavOffboardCmd:** #Send the Offboard command to the flight controller to enter the Offboard mode
- **def sendMavOffboardAPI:** # Update the data of Offboard message (the data will be sent at a certain frequency)
- **def SendVelNED:** # Send the earth coordinate system speed command
- **def sendUE4Cmd:** # Send a command to UE4 to control the display of UE4
- **def sendUE4Pos:** # Send the three-dimensional coordinates of an object to UE4 to display an object





2. Use of basic interface

2.6 Internal principle of PX4MavCtrlV4

- **def SendVelFRD:** #Send the body speed
- **def SendPosNED:** #Send the NED position, let the vehicle fly to the specified position (relative to the unlock point)
- **def initOffboard:** # Initialize Offboard mode
- **def endOffboard:** # End Offboard mode
- **def sendMavSetParam:** # Send MAVLink message to change Pixhawk parameters
- **def SendHILCtrlMsg:** #Send rfly_msg message to the flight controller (see **Section 4.3 of Lesson 3**)
- **def SendMavArm:** #Send unlock command
- **def SendRcOverride:** #Send and simulate remote control signal
- **def sendMavManualCtrl:** #Send and simulate the normalized remote control signal
- **def SendSetMode:** #Send and set Pixhawk mode
- **def stopRun:** #Stop running MAVLink data receiving thread
- **def getMavMsg:** #Update the data received by MAVLink





2. Use of basic interface

2.7 Interface usage example

- # "1-PX4MavCtrlAPITest\PX4MavCtrlAPITest.py" is an example of Python used in the interface.
- #The specific code analysis is as follows:
- #Create a new MAVLink communication instance, CopterSim's UDP receiving port is 20100
- mav = PX4MavCtrl.PX4MavCtrler(20100)
-
- # **sendUE4Cmd**: RflySim3D API to modify scene display style
- # Format: **mav.sendUE4Cmd(cmd,windowID=-1)**, where **cmd** is a command string, **windowID** is the received window number (assuming multiple RflySim3D windows are opened at the same time), **windowID =-1** means sent to all windows
- # **RflyChangeMapbyName** command means to switch the map (scene), the following string is the map name, here will switch all open windows to the grass map
- mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeMapbyName' Grasslands')

```
PX4MavCtrlAPITest.py X
C: > PX4PSPFull > RflySimAPIs > PythonVisionAPI > 1-PX4MavCtrlAP
  1 import time
  2 import math  1. import libraries
  3 import sys
  4
  5 import PX4MavCtrlV4 as PX4MavCtrl
  6
  7
  8 #Create a new MAVLink communication instance
  9 mav = PX4MavCtrl.PX4MavCtrler(20100)
10
11 2. create an API instance
```





2. Use of basic interface

2.7 Interface usage example

- # **sendUE4Pos**: RflySim3D API to generate 3D objects and control position
- # Formart: **mav.sendUE4Pos(CopterID, VehicleType, RotorSpeed, PosM, AngEulerRad, windowsID=0)**
- **mav.sendUE4Pos(100,30,0,[2.5,0,-8.086],[0,0,math.pi])**
- # Send and generate a 3D object to RflySim3D, where: the vehicle ID is **CopterID=100**;
- # Vehicle type **VehicleType=30** (a man); **RotorSpeed=0**RPM; Position coordinate **PosM=[2.5,0,-8.086]**m
- # Vehicle attitude angle **AngEulerRad=[0,0,math.pi]**rad (rotate 180 degrees to face the vehicle), the receiving window number default **windowsID=-1** (sent to all open RflySim3D programs)
- # **VehicleType options**: **3** for quadcopters, **5/6** for hexacopters, **30** for persons, **40** for checkerboard grids, **50/51** for cars, **60** for luminous lights, **100** for flying-wing or fixed-wing aircraft, **150/152** for circular square targets
- # command **RflyChange3DModel** followed by vehicle ID + 3D style to switch
- **mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChange3DModel 100 12')**
- #Send a message to make **CopterID=100** (the character just created) in all scenes, here **style=12** represents a walking person





2. Use of basic interface

2.7 Interface usage example

- # Command **RflyChangeViewKeyCmd** means to simulate the shortcut key pressed in RflySim3D, shortcut key **B 1** means to switch the focus to the object with **CopterID=1**
• # Here is set to send to window 0, other windows do not send
• `mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeViewKeyCmd B 1',0)`
- # Shortcut key **V 1** means to switch to the 1st onboard camera (front camera)
• `mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeViewKeyCmd V 1',0)`
- # **RflyCameraPosAng x y z roll pitch yaw**
• # Set the position of the camera relative to the center of the body, the default is 0
• # Here set the position of the front camera to **[0.1 -0.25 0]**
• `mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyCameraPosAng 0.1 0 0',0)`
- # **r.setres 720x405w** is a built-in command of UE4, which means to switch the resolution to 720x405
• `mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'r.setres 720x405w',0)`





2. Use of basic interface

2.7 Interface usage example

- # Send a shortcut command to window 1 to switch the focus to vehicle 1
- mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeViewKeyCmd B 1',1)
- # Send a shortcut key control command to window 0, N 1 shortcut key means to switch the perspective to the ground fixed perspective 1
- mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeViewKeyCmd N 1',1)
-
- # Set the current camera Field of View (FOV) to 90 degrees (the default value is 90 degrees in RflySim3D), the range of FOV is 0 to 180 degrees
- mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyCameraFovDegrees 90',1)
- # Set the current camera position here as [-2 0 -9.7]
- mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyCameraPosAng -2 0 -9.7',1)
- # Turn on MAVLink to monitor CopterSim data and update it in real time.
- mav.InitMavLoop()
- # Display location information received from CopterSim
- print(mav.uavPosNED)

```
self.uavAngEular = [0, 0, 0]
self.uavAngRate = [0, 0, 0] Pixhawk real-time state
self.uavPosNED = [0, 0, 0] data from MAVLink
self.uavVelNED = [0, 0, 0]
```





2. Use of basic interface

2.7 Interface usage example

- #Turn on Offboard mode
- mav.initOffboard()

- # Send the desired position signal, fly to the target point position 0,0, -1.7, the yaw angle is 0 rad
- mav.SendPosNED(0, 0, -1.7, 0)

- #Send arm command to arm the drone
- mav.SendMavArm(True)

- # Send the desired speed signal, 0.2m/s downwards, the z-axis downward is positive
- mav.SendVelNED(0, 0, 0.2, 0)
- #Exit Offboard control mode
- mav.endOffboard()

- #Exit MAVLink data receiving mode
- mav.stopRun()





2. Use of basic interface

2.8 Enable VS Code Python debugging function

- In order to facilitate the observation of the running results of each line of Python code, the debugging function of Python needs to be turned on here. The configuration process is as follows:
- Double-click "**RflySimAPIs\Python38Env.bat**" to open the Python environment, and enter the command "**pip install pylint**" to install the Python checker **pylint**. The result of successful installation is shown on the right
- Close the window and start code debugging with VS Code

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
C:\PX4PSPFull\RflySimAPIs\Python38Scripts>pip install pylint
Collecting pylint
  Using cached pylint-2.5.3-py3-none-any.whl (324 kB)
Collecting toml>=0.7.1
  Using cached toml-0.10.1-py2.py3-none-any.whl (19 kB)
Collecting mccabe<0.7,>=0.6
  Using cached mccabe-0.6.1-py2.py3-none-any.whl (8.6 kB)
Collecting astroid<=2.5,>=2.4.0
  Using cached astroid-2.4.2-py3-none-any.whl (213 kB)
Collecting isort<5,>=4.2.5
  Using cached isort-4.3.21-py2.py3-none-any.whl (42 kB)
Collecting colorama; sys_platform == "win32"
  Using cached colorama-0.4.3-py2.py3-none-any.whl (15 kB)
Collecting lazy-object-proxy==1.4.4
  Using cached lazy_object_proxy-1.4.3-cp38-cp38-win_amd64.whl
Collecting wrapt~=1.11
  Using cached wrapt-1.12.1.tar.gz (27 kB)
Collecting six~=1.12
  Using cached six-1.15.0-py2.py3-none-any.whl (10 kB)
Using legacy 'setup.py install' for wrapt, since package 'wheel'
Installing collected packages: toml, mccabe, lazy-object-proxy,
colorama, pylint
  Running setup.py install for wrapt ... done
Successfully installed astroid-2.4.2 colorama-0.4.3 isort-4.3.2
cabe-0.6.1 pylint-2.5.3 six-1.15.0 toml-0.10.1 wrapt-1.12.1
```





2. Use of basic interface

2.9 Interface usage example

- Locate the "RflySimAPIs\Python VisionAPI\1-PX4MavCtrlAPITest" folder in Windows Explorer
- Double-click the "PX4MavCtrlAPITest.bat" script to open the PX4 SITL simulation system of one vehicle
- Open the "PX4MavCtrlAPITest.py" file with VS Code, click the **breakpoints (red dot)** in front of each key statement as shown in the right picture, and turn on the debugging mode as shown in the picture below. Click the **arrow button** in the lower right picture to execute the statements in sequence

File Edit Selection View Go Run Terminal Help

RUN

2. Click the “Run and Debug” button

Run and Debug

To customize Run and Debug, open a folder and create a launch.json file.

Show all automatic debug configurations.

1. Click the Debug button

PX4MavCtrlAPITest.py - Visual Studio Code

Select a debug configuration

Debug Configuration

Python File Debug the currently active Python file

Module Debug a Python module by invoking it with '-m'

Remote Attach Attach to a remote debug server

Attach using Process ID Attach to a local process

Django Launch and debug a Django web application

Flask Launch and debug a Flask web application

Pyramid Web Application

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

```
PX4MavCtrlAPITest.py
```

```
C: > PX4PSPFull > RflySimAPIs > PythonVisionAPI > 1-PX4MavCtrlAPITest.py
```

```
8 #Create a new MAVLink communication instance,  
9 mav = PX4MavCtrl.PX4MavCtrler(20100)
```

```
10  
11  
12 # sendUE4Cmd: RflySim3D API to modify scene di  
13 # Format: mav.sendUE4Cmd(cmd,windowID=-1), whe  
14 # Argument: RflyChangeMapbyName command means  
15 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeMapbyName Grassland  
time.sleep(2)
```

```
16  
17  
18 # sendUE4Pos: RflySim3D API to generate 3D ob  
19 # Formart: mav.sendUE4Pos(CopterID, VehicleTyp  
mav.sendUE4Pos(100,30,0,[2.5,0,-8.086],[0,0,ma  
# Send and generate a 3D object to RflySim3D,  
22 # Vehicle type VehicleType=30 (a man); Rotors  
23 # Vehicle attitude angle AngEulerRad=[0,0,math  
24 # VehicleType options: 3 for quadcopters, 5/6  
25 time.sleep(0.5)
```

```
26  
27  
28 # RflyChange3DModel command followed by vehic  
29 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChange3DModel 100 12')  
30 #Send a message to make CopterID=100 (the char
```

```
PX4MavCtrlAPITest.py
```

```
<4PSPFull > RflySimAPIs > PythonVisionAPI > 1-PX4MavCtrlAPITest.py
```

```
8  
9 mav = PX4MavCtrl.PX4MavCtrler(20100)
```

```
10
```

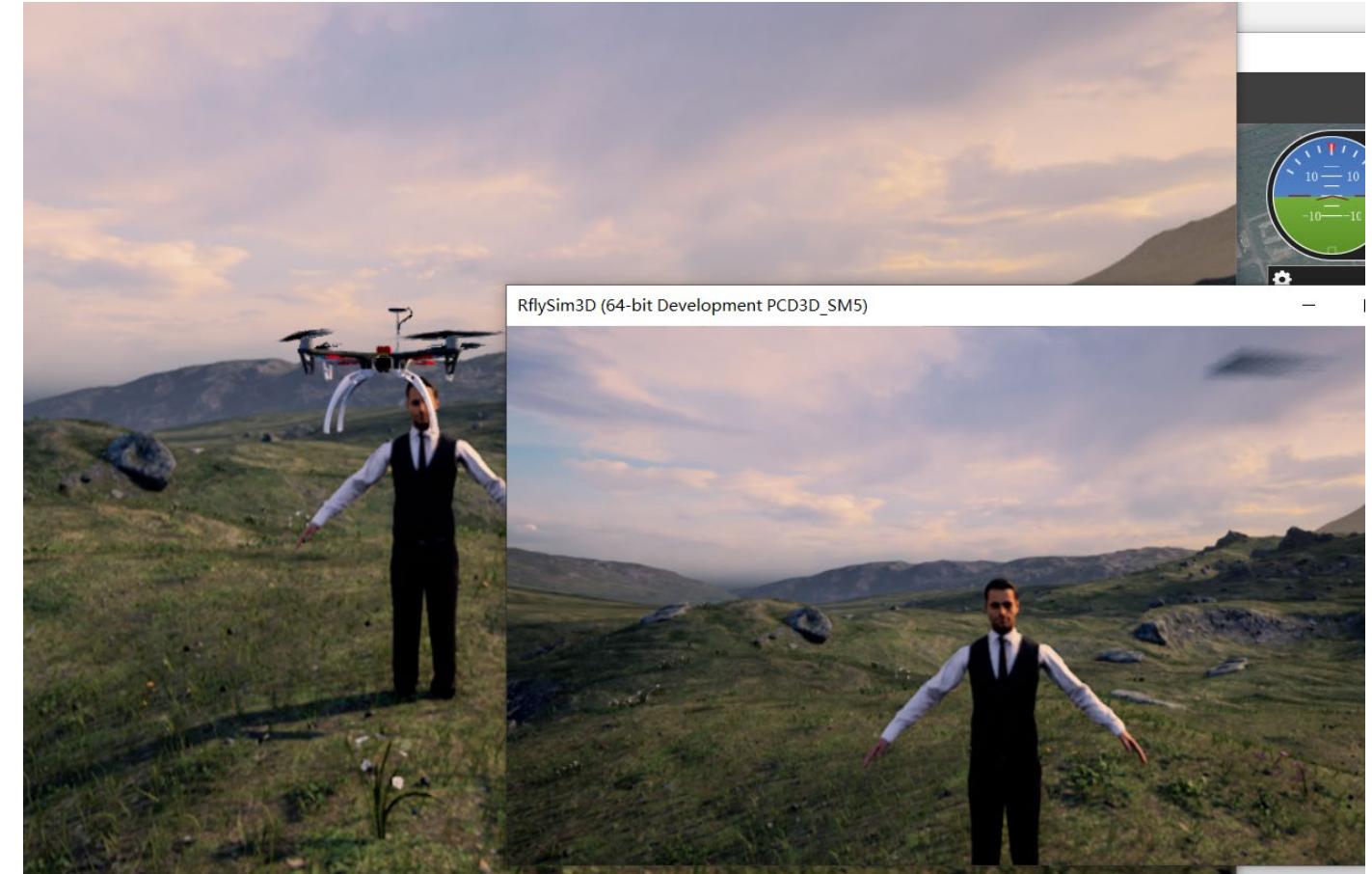


2. Use of basic interface

2.10 Experimental results of interface examples

- The phenomenon of this demo is that the python program sends a series of instructions, a new target of a walking person is created in the RflySim3D program, the angle of view form, size, and position are set, and control instructions are sent to the simulated drone to make it take off and land. .
- As shown on the right, this example will open two RflySim3D windows, one is the front camera, the other is the observation from God

Note: If the computer performance is poor and the flight shakes, you can manually close the opened RflySim3D window (observation angle)





2. Use of basic interface

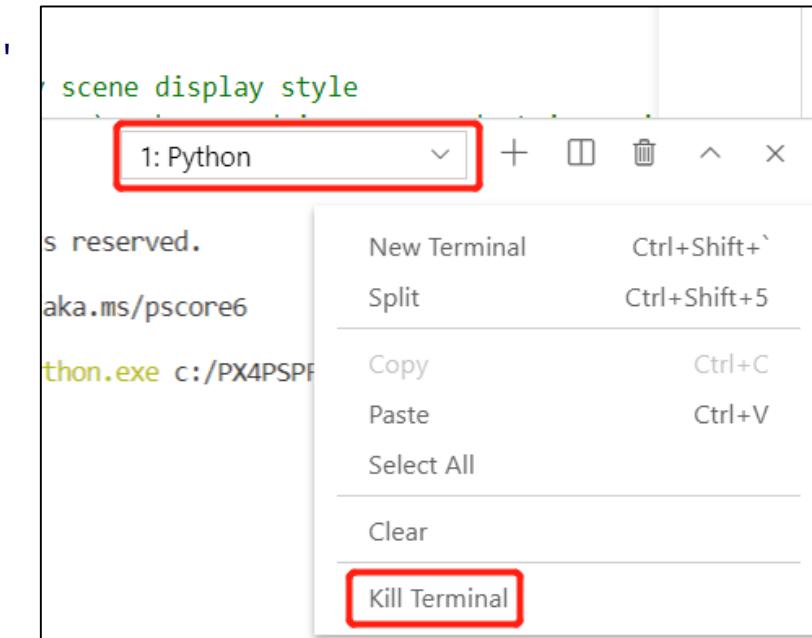
2.10 End simulation of interface example

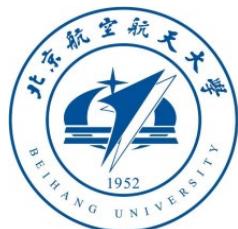
- In the command prompt window opened by the "**PX4MavCtrlAPITest.bat**" script shown in the figure below, press the Enter key (any key) to quickly close all programs such as **CopterSim**, **QGC**, **RflySim3D**, etc.
- As shown in the figure on the right, follow the steps in **Section 1.5** of this lesson in VS Code and click "**Kill Terminal**" to exit the script
- Close the VS Code window opened by "**PX4MavCtrlAPITest.py**"

A screenshot of a Windows Command Prompt window titled "C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe". The window displays the following text:

```
Start QGroundControl
Kill all CopterSims
Starting PX4 Build
[1/1] Generating ../../logs
killing running instances
starting instance 1 in /mnt/c/PX4PSPFull/Firmware/build/px4_sitl_default/instance_1
PX4 instances start finished
Press any key to exit
```

Below the window, a red box contains the text: "Enter any key in this window to quickly close all simulation windows".





2. Use of basic interface

2.11 Python interface to capture image from RflySim3D

- This script use the **win32api** of Windows to obtain the handles of all RflySim3D windows, and capture image from specific window for vision-based control.

```
ScreenCapApiV4.py X
C: > PX4PSP > RflySimAPIs > PythonVisionAPI > 2-ShootBall > ScreenCapApiV4.py
1 # import all libraries
2 import win32gui, win32ui, win32con, win32api
3 from ctypes import windll
4 import numpy
5
6 # get all RflySim3D window handles with class name UnrealWindow
7 def window_enumeration_handler(hwnd, window_hwnds):
8     if win32gui.GetClassName(hwnd) == "UnrealWindow":
9         window_hwnds.append(hwnd)
10
11 def getWndHandles():
12     window_hwnds = []
13     win32gui.EnumWindows(window_enumeration_handler, window_hwnds)
14     return window_hwnds
```

```
16 # define a class to store information of window handles
17 class WinInfo:
18     def __init__(self, hWnd, width, height, saveDC, saveBitMap, mfcDC, hWndDC):
19         self.hWnd = hWnd
20         self.width = width
21         self.height = height
22         self.saveDC = saveDC
23         self.saveBitMap = saveBitMap
24         self.mfcDC = mfcDC
25         self.hWndDC = hWndDC
26
27     # get the window infomation of a handle
28     def getHwndInfo(hWnd):
29         left, top, right, bot = win32gui.GetClientRect(hWnd)
30         width = right - left
31         height = bot - top
32         print((width, height))
33         if hWnd and width == 0 and height == 0:
34             print("The RflySim3D window cannot be in minimized mode")
35             sys.exit(1)
36
37     # retrieve the device context (DC) for the entire window,
38     # including title bar, menus, and scroll bars.
39     hWndDC = win32gui.GetWindowDC(hWnd)
40     mfcDC = win32ui.CreateDCFromHandle(hWndDC)
41
42     # creates a memory device context (DC) compatible with the spec
43     saveDC = mfcDC.CreateCompatibleDC()
44
45     # create a bitmap object
46     saveBitMap = win32ui.CreateBitmap()
47     saveBitMap.CreateCompatibleBitmap(mfcDC, width, height)
48
49     # return image info.
50     info = WinInfo(hWnd, width, height, saveDC, saveBitMap, mfcDC,
51     return info
```



2. Use of basic interface

2.11 Python interface to capture screen from RflySim3D

- The following image presents the most important interface to acquire real-time frame for OpenCV image processing and then MAVLink control

```
53
54 # get the image from RflySim3D window's client area
55 def getCVImg(wInfo):
56     wInfo.saveDC.SelectObject(wInfo.saveBitMap)
57
58     # copies a visual window into the specified device context (DC)
59     # The last int value: 0-save the whole window, 1-only client area
60     result = windll.user32.PrintWindow(wInfo.hWnd, wInfo.saveDC.GetSafeHdc(), 1)
61     signedIntsArray = wInfo.saveBitMap.GetBitmapBits(True)
62
63     # get the image from bitmap array
64     im_opencv = numpy.frombuffer(signedIntsArray, dtype='uint8')
65     im_opencv.shape = (wInfo.height, wInfo.width, 4)
66
67     # return the image
68     return im_opencv
69
```





Content

1. Setup Instructions
2. Use of basic interface
3. Examples of monocular vision control
4. Examples of binocular vision control
5. Summary





3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.1 Experiment of drone impact on small ball

- In Windows Explorer, open and enter the "**RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI\2-ShootBall**" folder, the contents of which are as shown in the figure below
- Among them, "**PX4MavCtrlV4.py**" is the interface file introduced in the previous section, "**ShootBall3.py**" is the main Python program of this demo, "**ScreenCapApiV4.py**" is the API to capture screen from RflySim3D, "**ShootBall3HITL.bat**" is the script to quickly start the hardware-in-the-loop simulation, "**ShootBall3SITL.bat**" It is a script to quickly start software-in-the-loop simulation. As shown in the figure on the right, the difference between the desktop **S/HITLRun** shortcut and the scripts is: "**UE4_MAP**" map scene variable selects the vision flat grass scene "**VisionRingBlank**"; secondly, "**UDPSIMMODE**" communication UDP mode Select the "**Mavlink_Full**" mode to facilitate communication with Python; finally open two RflySim3D windows

1. MAVLink API 2. Screen capture API 3. Main program 4. HITL start script 5. SITL start script

```
REM Set broadcast to other computer; 0: only this computer,  
REM e.g., IS_BROADCAST=0 equals to IS_BROADCAST=127.0.0.1,  
SET IS_BROADCAST=0  
  
REM Set UDP data mode; 0: UDP_FULL, 1:UDP_Simple, 2: Mavlink  
REM e.g., UDPSIMMODE=0 equals to UDPSIMMODE=UDP_Simple  
SET UDPSIMMODE=2
```



3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.2 Analysis of Impact Ball Experiment Code

- Open the "**ShootBall3.py**" file with VS Code, the algorithm to acquire front camera image from RflySim3D and compute velocity commands to the Pixhawk are presented as follows.

```
ShootBall3.py ×  
C: > PX4PSP > RflySimAPIs > PythonVisionAPI > 2-ShootBall > ShootBall3.py  
1 # import required libraries  
2 import time  
3 import mmap  
4 import numpy as np  
5 import cv2.cv2 as cv2  
6 from pymavlink.dialects.v20 import common as mavlink2  
7 import win32gui, win32ui, win32con  
8 from ctypes import windll  
9 import sys  
10  
11 # import RflySim APIs  
12 import PX4MavCtrlV4 as PX4MavCtrl  
13 import ScreenCapApiV4 as sca
```

1. Import all libraries

2. Import MAVLink and Vision APIs

```
15 def calc_centroid(img):  
16     """Get the centroid and area of green in the image"""  
17     low_range = np.array([0,0,80])  
18     high_range = np.array([100,100,255])  
19     th = cv2.inRange(img, low_range, high_range)  
20     dilated = cv2.dilate(th, cv2.getStructuringElement(  
21         cv2.MORPH_ELLIPSE, (3, 3)), iterations=2)  
22     cv2.imshow("dilated", dilated)  
23     cv2.waitKey(1)  
24  
25     M = cv2.moments(dilated, binaryImage=True)  
26     if M["m00"] >= min_prop*width*height:  
27         cx = int(M["m10"] / M["m00"])  
28         cy = int(M["m01"] / M["m00"])  
29         return [cx, cy, M["m00"]]  
30     else:  
31         return [-1, -1, -1]
```

3. Vision function to calculate the location and radius of red ball





3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.2 Analysis of Impact Ball Experiment Code

```
34 # Function to obtain velocity commands for Pixhawk
35 # according to the image processing results
36 def controller(p_i):
37     # if the object is not in the image, search in clockwise
38     if p_i[0] < 0 or p_i[1] < 0:
39         return [0, 0, 0, 1]
40
41     # found
42     ex = p_i[0] - width / 2
43     ey = p_i[1] - height / 2
44
45     vx = 2 if p_i[2] < max_prop*width*height else 0
46     vy = 0
47     vz = K_z * ey
48     yawrate = K_yawrate * ex
49
50     # return forward, rightward, downward, and rightward-yaw
51     # velocity control sigals
52     return [vx, vy, vz, yawrate]
```

4. Controller function to obtain vehicle velocity error based on pixel error

```
54 # Process image to obtain vehicle velocity control command
55 def procssImage():
56     img_rgba=sca.getCVImg(ImgInfo1)
57     img_bgr = cv2.cvtColor(img_rgba, cv2.COLOR_RGBA2RGB)
58     img_bgr = cv2.resize(img_bgr, (width, height))
59     p_i = calc_centroid(img_bgr)
60     ctrl = controller(p_i)
61     return ctrl
62
63 # saturation function to limit the maximum velocity
64 def sat(inPwm,thres=1):
65     outPwm= inPwm
66     for i in range(len(inPwm)):
67         if inPwm[i]>thres:
68             outPwm[i] = thres
69         elif inPwm[i]<-thres:
70             outPwm[i] = -thres
71     return outPwm
```

6. Saturation function to limit maximum velocity output for safety





3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.2 Analysis of Impact Ball Experiment Code

```
73 # Create MAVLink control API instance
74 mav = PX4MavCtrl.PX4MavCtrler(20100)
75 # Init MAVLink data receiving loop
76 mav.InitMavLoop()
77
78 isEmptyData = False
79 lastTime = time.time()
80 startTime = time.time()
81 # time interval of the timer
82 timeInterval = 0.01 #here is 0.01s (100Hz)
83 flag = 0
84
85 # parameters
86 width = 720
87 height = 405
88 channel = 4
89 min_prop = 0.000001
90 max_prop = 0.3
91 K_z = 0.003 * 640 / height
92 K_yawrate = 0.005 * 480 / width
```

7. Initialize MAVLink connection and all variables

```
94 # send command to all RflySim3D windows to switch to the blank grass scene
95 # by default, there are two windows, the first is front camera
96 # for vision control, and the second window for observation
97 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeMapbyName VisionRingBlank')
98 time.sleep(1)
99
100 # create a ball, set its position and altitude, use the default red color
101 mav.sendUE4Pos(100,152,0,[3,0,-2],[0,0,0])
102 time.sleep(0.5)
103
104 # Change the target vehicle to copterID=1's vehicle
105 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeViewKeyCmd B 1',0)
106 time.sleep(0.5)
107 # Switch its viewpoint to onboard #1 (front camera view)
108 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeViewKeyCmd V 1',0)
109 time.sleep(0.5)
110 # move the camera to the position [0.3,0,0.05] related to the body
111 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyCameraPosAng 0.3 0 0.05 0 0 0',0)
112 time.sleep(0.5)
113 # set the RflySim3D window size to 720x405
114 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'r.setres 720x405w',0)
115 time.sleep(2)
```

8. Send commands to change the display image in RflySim3D





3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.2 Analysis of Impact Ball Experiment Code

```
117 window_hwnds = sca.getWndHandles()
118 Wd01 = window_hwnds[0]
119 hasFoundWd = False
120 for hwd in window_hwnds:
121     info = sca.getHwndInfo(hwd)
122     if info.width == 720:
123         Wd01 = hwd
124         hasFoundWd = True
125         window_hwnds.remove(hwd)
126         break
127
128 # if no window is found, throw an error
129 if not hasFoundWd:
130     print("The first RflySim3D window does not respond to the command,")
131     mav.stopRun()
132     sys.exit(1)
133 else:
134     print("The first RflySim3D window is found with desired size.")
135
136 ImgInfo01 = sca.getHwndInfo(Wd01)
137
138 ctrlLast = [0,0,0,0]
139 while True:
140     lastTime = lastTime + timeInterval
141     sleepTime = lastTime - time.time()
142     if sleepTime > 0:
143         time.sleep(sleepTime)
144     else:
145         lastTime = time.time()
146 # The following code will be executed 100Hz (0.01s)
```

9. Acquire the RflySim3D front camera view for image processing

10. Generate a timer with 0.01s interval (100Hz)

```
151 if time.time() - startTime > 5 and flag == 0:
152     # The following code will be executed at 5s
153     print("5s, Arm the drone")
154     mav.initOffboard()
155     flag = 1
156     mav.SendMavArm(True) # Arm the drone
157     print("Arm the drone!, and fly to NED 0,0,-5")
158     mav.SendPosNED(0, 0, -5, 0) # Fly to target position [0, 0, -5], i.e.
159
160     if time.time() - startTime > 15 and flag == 1:
161         flag = 2
162         # The following code will be executed at 15s
163         mav.SendPosNED(-30,-5, -5, 0) # Fly to target position [-30,-5, -5]
164         print("15s, fly to pos: -30,-5, -5")
165
166     if time.time() - startTime > 25 and flag == 2:
167         flag = 3
168         print("25s, start to shoot the ball.")
169
170     if time.time() - startTime > 25 and flag == 3:
171         ctrlNow = processImage()
172         ctrl = sat(ctrlNow,5)
173         # add a inertial component here to restrain the speed variation rate
174         if ctrl[0]-ctrlLast[0] > 0.5:
175             ctrl[0]=ctrlLast[0]+0.05
176         elif ctrl[0]-ctrlLast[0] < -0.5:
177             ctrl[0]=ctrlLast[0]-0.05
178         if ctrl[1]-ctrlLast[1] > 0.5:
179             ctrl[1]=ctrlLast[1]+0.05
180         elif ctrl[1]-ctrlLast[1] < -0.5:
181             ctrl[1]=ctrlLast[1]-0.05
182         ctrlLast = ctrl
183         # if control signals are obtained, send to Pixhawk
184         if not isEmptyData:
185             mav.SendVelFRD(ctrl[0], ctrl[1], ctrl[2], ctrl[3])
```

11. Arm the drone and fly to 5m above ground

12. Fly to -30, -5m behind the red ball

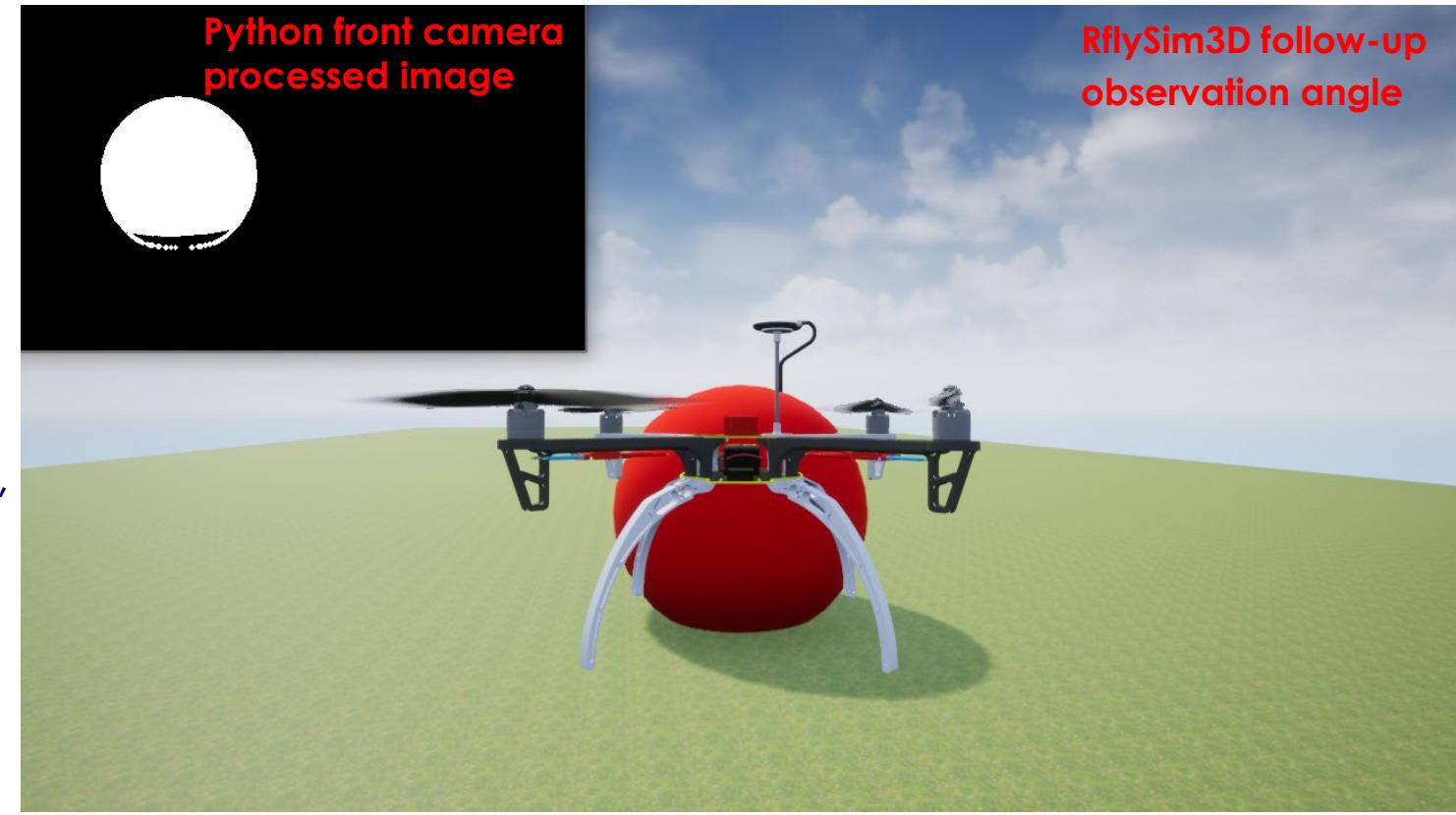
13. Process image and obtain velocity commands to approach the ball



3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.3 The running effect of the impact ball experiment

- Double-click to run the "**ShootBall3SITL.bat**" file to start the software-in-the-loop simulation system, and then run the "**ShootBall3.py**" program. Generate a red sphere in the front, let the drone fly a distance to the left and rear, and turn on vision tracking, and fly close to the small ball then stop.
- To use hardware-in-the-loop simulation, after setting up the flight controller, run the "**ShootBall3HITL.bat**" script and enter the flight controller serial port number to start the hardware-in-the-loop simulation system.



Note: If the computer performance is poor and the flight shakes, you can manually close the opened RflySim3D window (trailing observation angle)

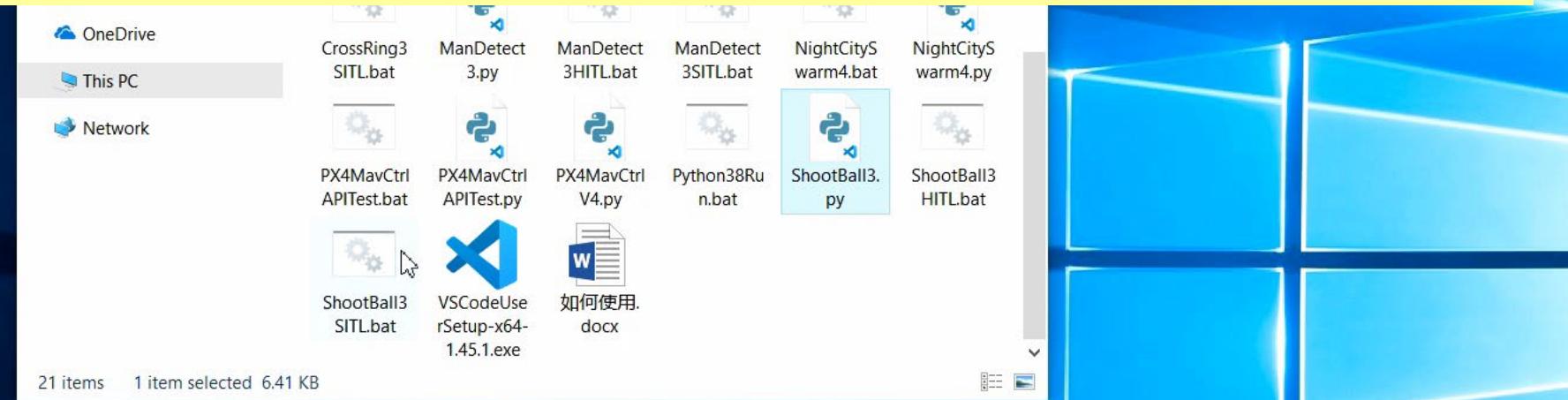


RflySim: How to use Python/OpenCV to perform vision-based control of a multicopter UAV to track a ball

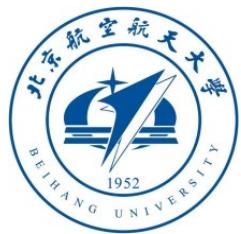
Watch this video by clicking the following links:

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/PvxEfY7oMq4>

Youku: https://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XNDcwNjA4NTYwNA==.html



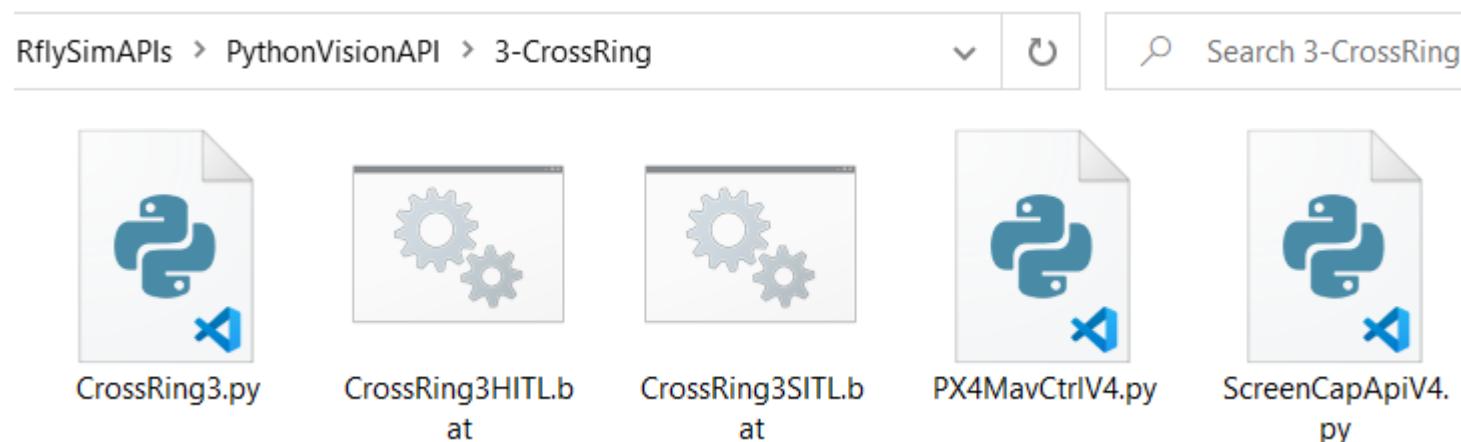
Use demo bat script to quickly create a SITL vehicle



3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.4 UAV cross rings experiment

- In Windows Explorer, open and enter the "**RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI\3-CrossRing**" folder, the contents of which are as shown in the figure below
- Among them, "**CrossRing3.py**" is the main Python program of this demo; "**ShootBall3HTL.bat**" and "**ShootBall3SITL.bat**" are different from the previous example of hitting a small ball: "**UE4_MAP**" map scene variable is selected for "**VisionRing**" in the vision looping scene. Note that the "**UDPSIMMODE**" communication UDP mode also selects the "**Mavlink_Full**" mode.





3. Examples of monocular

3.5 Code analysis of cross rings experiment

```
31 def saturationYawRate(yaw_rate):  
32     yr_bound = 20.0  
33     if yaw_rate > yr_bound:  
34         yaw_rate = yr_bound  
35     if yaw_rate < -yr_bound:  
36         yaw_rate = -yr_bound  
37     return yaw_rate      1. Saturation  
38                                         function for  
39 def taskChange(pos_x):    2. Task  
40     if pos_x < 40:  
41         task = "range1"  
42     elif pos_x < 70:  
43         task = "range2"  
44     elif pos_x < 130:  
45         task = "range3"  
46     elif pos_x < 140:  
47         task = "land"  
48     else:  
49         task = "finish"  
50     return task
```

```
60 # object detect function  
61 def objectDetect(task):  
62     """According task to detect objects"""  
63     img_rgba=sca.getCVImg(ImgInfo1)  
64     img_bgr = cv2.cvtColor(img_rgba, cv2.COLOR_RGBA2RGB)  
65     img_bgr = cv2.resize(img_bgr, (width, height))  
66  
67     b,g,r = cv2.split(img_bgr)  
68     img_edge = cv2.Canny(b, 50, 100)  
69     if task == "range1" or task == "range2":  
70         return circleDetect(img_bgr, img_edge, b)  
71     else:  
72         return squareDetect(img_bgr, img_edge)
```

3. Object detection function

```
74 # square detect for object detect function  
75 def squareDetect(img_bgr, img_edge):  
76     """Detect Square with PolyDP and diagonal length"""  
77     # find contours  
78     squares = []  
79     cnts, hierarchy = cv2.findContours(img_edge, cv2.RETR_LIST, cv2.CHAIN_APPROX_SIMPLE)  
80     for cnt in cnts:  
81         cnt_len = cv2.arcLength(cnt, True)  
82         cnt = cv2.approxPolyDP(cnt, 0.05 * cnt_len, True)  
83         if len(cnt) == 4 and cv2.contourArea(cnt) > 2000 and cv2.isContourConvex(cnt):  
84             cnt = cnt.reshape(-1, 2)  
85             diag_delta = diagonal_check(cnt)  
86             if diag_delta < 0.2:  
87                 squares.append(cnt)  
88             cv2.drawContours( img_bgr, squares, -1, (0, 255, 0), 3)  
89             cv2.imshow("img_bgr", img_bgr)  
90             cv2.waitKey(1)  
91             height, width, channel = img_bgr.shape  
92             if squares:  
93                 return (squares[0][0][0]+squares[0][2][0])/2 - width/2, (squares[0][0][1]+squares[0][2][1])/2 - height/2  
94             else:  
95                 return -1,-1,-1
```

4. Square detection function



3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.5 Code analysis of cross rings experiment

```
97 # circle detect for object detect function          5. Circle
98 def circleDetect(img_bgr, img_edge, img_b):        detection
99     """Hough Circle detect"""
100    circles = cv2.HoughCircles(img_b, cv2.HOUGH_GRADIENT, 1, 20, pa
101    if circles is not None:
102        circles = np.uint16(np.around(circles))
103        obj = circles[0, 0]
104        cv2.circle(img_bgr, (obj[0], obj[1]), obj[2], (0,255,0), 2)
105        cv2.circle(img_bgr, (obj[0], obj[1]), 2, (0,255,255), 3)
106        cv2.imshow("img_bgr", img_bgr)
107        cv2.waitKey(1)
108        height, width, channel = img_bgr.shape
109        return obj[0]-width/2, obj[1]-height/2, obj[2]
110    else:
111        return -1,-1,-1
```

```
114 # approaching Objective/ crossing rings algorithm
115 def approachObjective():
116     # 0. parameters
117     # some parameters that work:(0.03, -0.03, 1, 5.0); (0.06, -
118     K_z = 0.004 * 640 / height
119     K_yawrate = 0.005 * 480 / width
120     task = "range1"
121     # 1. start
122     startAppTime= time.time()
123     while (task != "finish") & (task != "land"):
124         # 1.1. detect object and get error with center of image
125         ex, ey, r = objectDetect(task)
126         # 1.2. where is the drone
127         pos_x = mav.uavPosNED[0]
128         #print(time.time())
129         # 1.3. update task
130         task = taskChange(pos_x)
131         # 1.4. attack
132         if ex != -1:
133             vx = sat(time.time()-startAppTime,3)
134             vy = 0
135             vz = K_z * ey
136             yawrate = K_yawrate * ex
137             mav.SendVelFRD(vx, vy, vz, yawrate)
138         while task == "land":
139             pos_x = mav.uavPosNED[0]
140             task = taskChange(pos_x)
141             mav.SendVelFRD(0, 0, 1, 0)
```

6. Target approaching function



3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.5 Code analysis of cross rings experiment

7. Main function to initialize MAVLink and configure RflySim3D

```
143 # main function
144 if __name__ == '__main__':
145     mav = PX4MavCtrl.PX4MavCtrler(20100)
146     mav.InitMavLoop()
147     mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeMapbyName VisionRing',0)
148     mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeMapbyName VisionRing',1)
149     time.sleep(0.5)
150     mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeViewKeyCmd V 1',0)
151     time.sleep(0.5)
152     mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyCameraPosAng 0.3 0 0 0 0 0',0)
153
154     # Get handles of all UE4/RflySim3D windows
155     window_hwnds = sca.getWndHandle()
156
157     mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'r.setres 720x405w',0)
158     time.sleep(2)
```

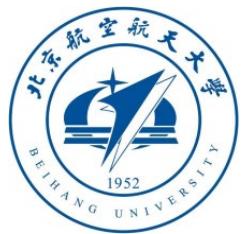
```
171     # if no window is found, throw an error
172     if not hasFoundWd:
173         print("The first RflySim3D window does not response the command,
174             mav.stopRun()
175             sys.exit(1)
176     else:
177         print("The first RflySim3D window is found with desired size.")
178
179
180     ImgInfo1 = sca.getHwndInfo(Wd01)
181
182     print("Simulation Start.")
183
184     print("Enter Offboard mode.")
185     time.sleep(5)
186     mav.initOffboard()
187     time.sleep(0.5)
188     mav.SendMavArm(True) # Arm the drone
189     mav.SendPosNED(0, 0, -5, 0) # Fly to target position 0,0, -5
190
191     time.sleep(10)
192     # start crossing ring task
193     approachObjective()
```

8. Check RflySim3D display OK

9. Takeoff at 5s and start crossing rings control at 15s

10. Enter vision control loop

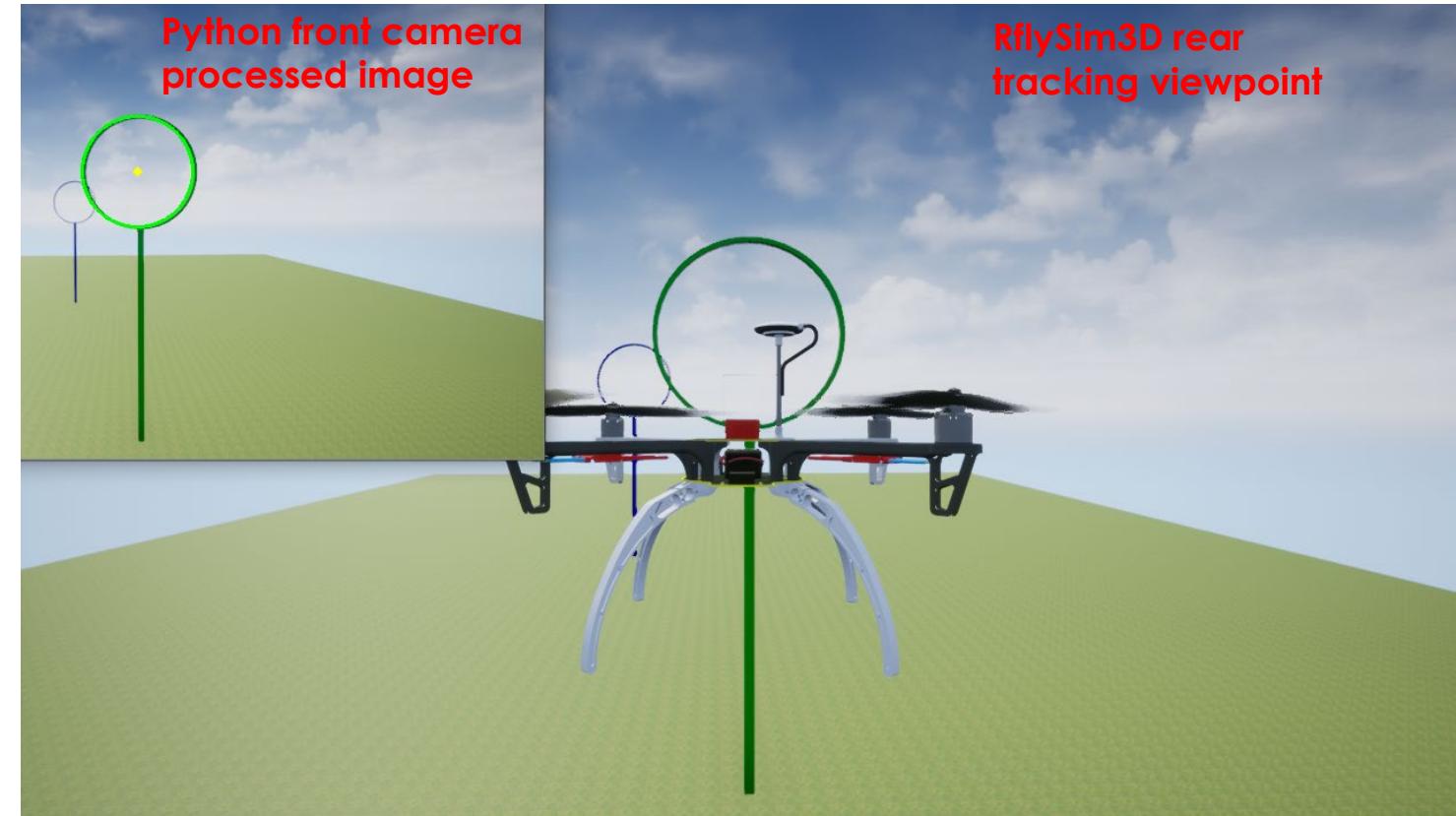




3. Examples of monocular vision control

3.6 Running effect of cross rings experiment

- Double-click to run the "**CrossRing3SITL.bat**" file to start the software-in-the-loop simulation system, and then run the "**CrossRing3.py**" program.
- After taking off, the drone crosses through the three rings in sequence, and finally landed automatically.
- To use hardware-in-the-loop simulation, after setting up the flight controller, run the "**CrossRing3HTL.bat**" script and enter the flight controller serial port number to start the hardware-in-the-loop simulation system.



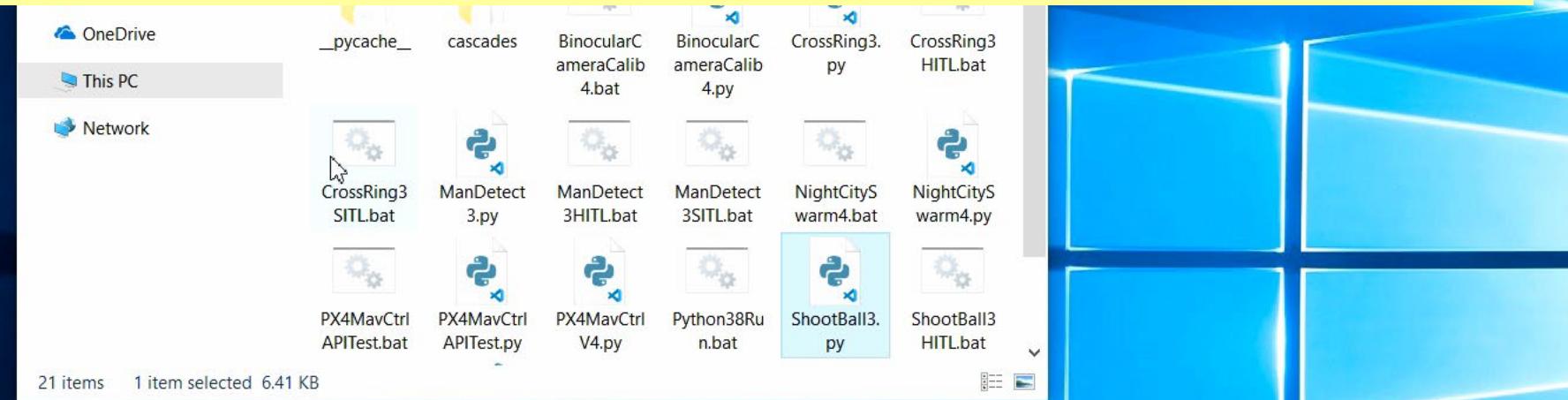
Note: If the computer performance is poor and the flight shakes, you can manually close the opened RflySim3D window (trailing observation angle)

RflySim: Vision-based navigation and control for multicopter crossing rings experiment

Watch this video by clicking the following links:

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/PvxEfY7oMq4>

Youku: https://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XNDcwNjA4NTYwNA==.html





Content

1. Setup Instructions
2. Use of basic interface
3. Examples of monocular vision control
4. Examples of binocular vision control
5. Summary

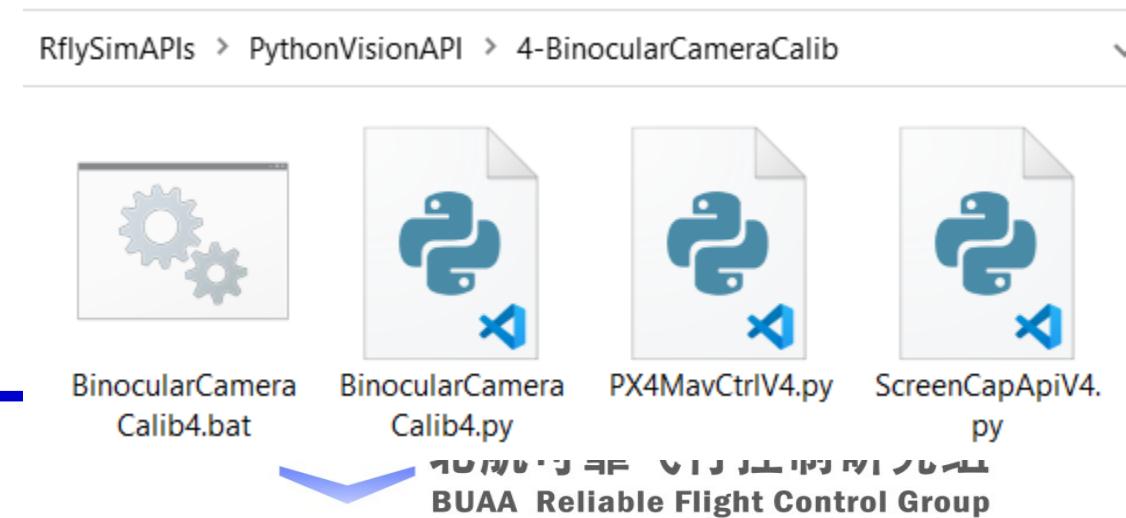




4. Examples of binocular vision control

4.1 Binocular camera calibration experiment

- In Windows Explorer, open and enter the "**RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI\4-BinocularCameraCalib**" folder, the contents of which are as shown in the figure below
- Among them, "**BinocularCameraCalib4.py**" is the main Python program of this demo; "**BinocularCameraCalib4.bat**" is a batch startup script, double-clicking it will automatically open three RflySim3D windows (left and right cameras + trailing global observation angle); "**PX4MavCtrlV4.py**" is the Python communication interface module of this platform.





4. Examples of binocular camera calibration

4.2 Analysis of binocular camera calibration code

- Open the "**BinocularCameraCalib4.py**" file with VS Code
- The key code lines are shown on the right, this script can obtain images of multiple windows at the same time
- Please read and study the rest of the code according to the previous explanation

```
110 ImgInfo1 = sca.getHwndInfo(Wd01)
111 ImgInfo2 = sca.getHwndInfo(Wd02)
112
113
114 startTime = time.time()
115 lastTime = time.time()
116 timeInterval = 3      2. Time interval 3s (0.33Hz)
117 while True:
118     lastTime = lastTime + timeInterval
119     sleepTime = lastTime - time.time()
120     if sleepTime > 0:
121         time.sleep(sleepTime)
122     else:
123         lastTime = time.time()      3. Set position and attitude of
124     TargePos = [InitTargePos[0]+random.randint(0,100)/100.0*2,InitT
125     TargeAng = [InitTargeAng[0]+random.randint(-50,50)/50.0*30/180.
126
127 mav.sendUE4Pos(100,40,0,TargePos,TargeAng,-1)
128 time.sleep(0.1)
129
130 # The following code will be executed per 3s
131 img1=sca.getCVImg(ImgInfo1)
132 # Get the first camera view and change to gray
133 pic1=cv2.cvtColor(img1, cv2.COLOR_BGR2GRAY)
134
135 img2=sca.getCVImg(ImgInfo2)
136 # Get the second camera view and change to gray
137 pic2=cv2.cvtColor(img2, cv2.COLOR_BGR2GRAY)      5. Calibration
138 # add image storing algorithm for MATLAB offline calibration
139 # or add online calibration algorithm here      algorithm can
140                                         be added here
141
142 cv2.imshow("pic1",pic1) # Show the processed image
143 cv2.imshow("pic2",pic2)      6. Display the
144                                         processed images
145 cv2.waitKey(1)
```

1. Get the left and right RflySim3D window information

2. Time interval 3s (0.33Hz)

3. Set position and attitude of checkerboard randomly

4. Get the images from left and right cameras

5. Calibration algorithm can be added here

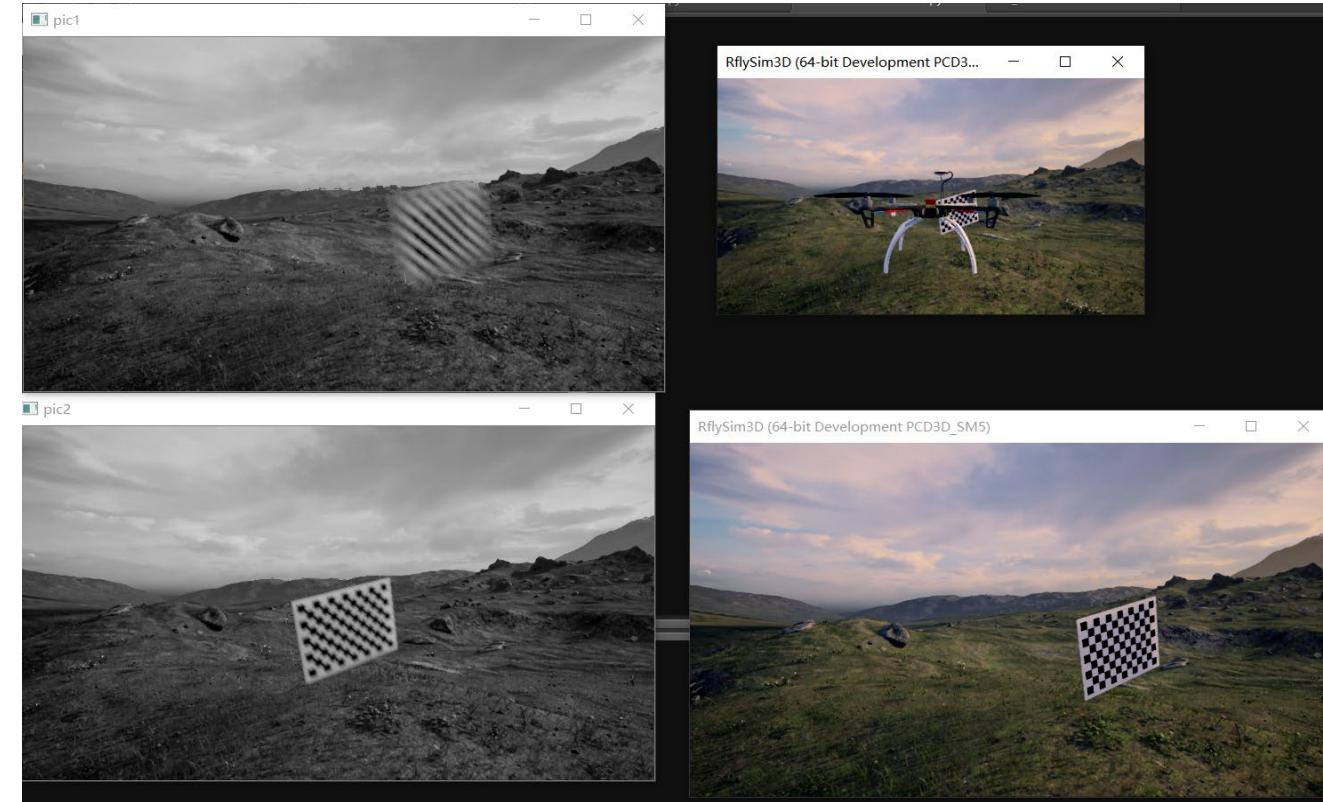
6. Display the processed images



4. Examples of binocular vision control

4.3 Experimental results of binocular camera calibration

- After running "**BinocularCameraCalib4.bat**", then run "**BinocularCameraCalib4.py**" is ok.
- Open multiple RflySim3D scenes, create a new vehicle, configure binocular position information, create a new target, and place the target according to random rules.
- **Assignment 1:** After acquiring the images of the left and right cameras, implement the online calibration algorithm.
- **Assignment 2:** Store the images of the left and right cameras as pictures locally, and then use the calibration toolbox of MATLAB to find the parameters



Note: If the computer performance is poor and the flight shakes, you can manually close the last opened RflySim3D window (trailing observation angle), just use the front left and right camera angles



RflySim: How to perform binocular vision control and apply to real multicopter system

Watch this video by clicking the following links:

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/hm6i6UCQjCI>

Youku: https://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XNDcwNjA4NzgxMg==.html

```
11 # from PIL import Image
12 import cv2
13 import numpy
14 import sys
15 import time
16 import math
17
18
19 os.system('tasklist|find /i "CopterSim.exe" && taskkill /f /im "CopterSim.exe"')
20 os.system('tasklist|find /i "QGroundControl.exe" && taskkill /f /im "QGroundControl.e
21 os.system('tasklist|find /i "RflySim3D.exe" && taskkill /f /im "RflySim3D.exe"')
22 os.system('start D:\\RflySimSource\\Rfly3DScenes422\\UE4Swarm3D\\RflySim3D\\WindowsNo
23 os.system('start D:\\RflySimSource\\Rfly3DScenes422\\UE4Swarm3D\\RflySim3D\\WindowsNo
24 os.system('start D:\\RflySimSource\\Rfly3DScenes422\\UE4Swarm3D\\RflySim3D\\WindowsNo
25
26 time.sleep(5)
27
28 def window_enumeration_handler(hwnd, window_hwnds):
29     if win32gui.GetClassName(hwnd) == "UnrealWindow":
30         window_hwnds.append(hwnd)
31
32
33 class WinInfo:
34     def __init__(self, hWnd, width, height, saveDC, saveBitMap, mfcDC, hWndDC):
35         self.hWnd = hWnd
36         self.width = width
37         self.height = height
38         self.saveDC = saveDC
39         self.saveBitMap = saveBitMap
40         self.mfcDC = mfcDC
41         self.hWndDC = hWndDC
```

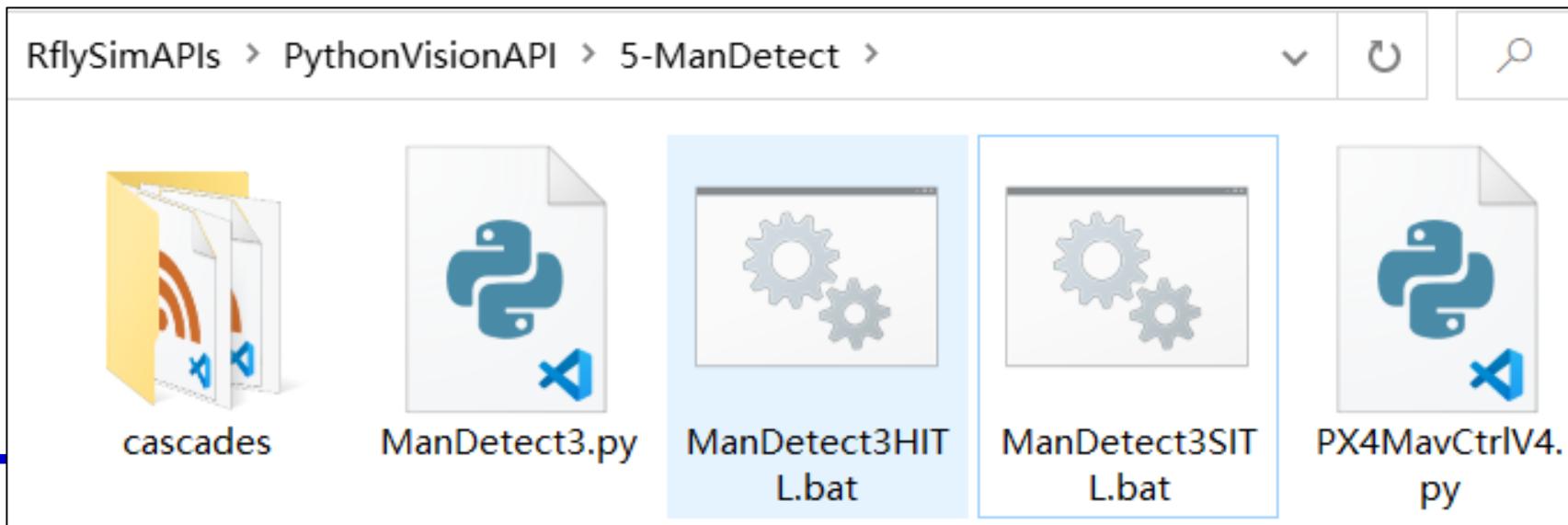
Automatic camera calibration demo



4. Examples of binocular vision control

4.4 UAV binocular vision demo

- In Windows Explorer, open and enter the "**RflySimAPIs\PythonVisionAPI\5-ManDetect**" folder, the contents of which are as shown in the figure below
- Among them, "**ManDetect3.py**" is the main Python program of this demo; the cascades folder contains some feature files in **XML** format for face recognition; the difference between "**ManDetect3HITL.bat**" and "**ManDetect3SITL.bat**" to the desktop shortcut is: The "**UDPSIMMODE**" communication UDP mode also selects the "**Mavlink_Full**" mode; three RflySim3D windows are opened, left and right cameras + trailing observation angles.





4. Examples of binocular

4.5 Source code analysis of drone binocular

- Open the "ManDetect3.py" file with VS Code

```
24 # Create MAVLink control API instance
25 mav = PX4MavCtrl.PX4MavCtrler(20100)
26 # Init MAVLink data receiving loop
27 mav.InitMavLoop()
28
29 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeMapbyName Grasslands')
30 time.sleep(5)
31
32 # send vehicle position command to create a man, with copterID=100
33 # the man is located before the drone, and rotated to 180 degree (face the drone)
34 mav.sendUE4Pos(100,30,0,[1,0,-8.086],[0,0,math.pi])
35 time.sleep(1)
36
37 # send command to change object with copterID=100 (the man just created)
38 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChange3DModel 100 16')
39 time.sleep(0.5)
40
41 # send command to the first RflySim3D window, to switch to vehicle 1
42 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeViewKeyCmd B 1',0)
43 time.sleep(0.5)
44 # switch to onboard camera 1 (front camera)
45 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyChangeViewKeyCmd V 1',0)
46 time.sleep(0.5)
47 # change the camera position to [0.1 -0.25 0] related to the body
48 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'RflyCameraPosAng 0.1 -0.25 0',0)
49 time.sleep(1)
50 # change the first window to size 720x405
51 mav.sendUE4Cmd(b'r.setres 720x405w',0)
```

1. initialize MAVLink and configure RflySim3D windows

```
119 # Process the image in the following timer
120 startTime = time.time()
121 lastTime = time.time()
122 timeInterval = 0.01 # time interval of the timer
123 face_cascade=cv2.CascadeClassifier(sys.path[0]+'\cascades\haarcascade
124 while True:
125     lastTime = lastTime + timeInterval
126     sleepTime = lastTime - time.time()
127     if sleepTime > 0:
128         time.sleep(sleepTime)
129     else:
130         lastTime = time.time()
131     # The following code will be executed 100Hz (0.01s)
132
133 img1=sca.getCVIImg(ImgInfo1)
134 # Get the first camera view and change to gray
135 pic1=cv2.cvtColor(img1, cv2.COLOR_BGRA2GRAY)
136
137 img2=sca.getCVIImg(ImgInfo2)
138 # Get the second camera view and change to gray
139 pic2=cv2.cvtColor(img2, cv2.COLOR_BGRA2GRAY)
140
141 faces1=face_cascade.detectMultiScale(pic1,1.3,5) # face recogniti
142 faces2=face_cascade.detectMultiScale(pic2,1.3,5) # face recogniti
143 for (x,y,w,h) in faces1:
144     pic1=cv2.rectangle(pic1,(x,y),(x+w,y+h),(255,0,0),1) # Draw a
145 for (x,y,w,h) in faces2:
146     pic2=cv2.rectangle(pic2,(x,y),(x+w,y+h),(255,0,0),1)
147
148 cv2.imshow("pic1",pic1) # Show the processed image
149 cv2.imshow("pic2",pic2)
150
151 # add target tracking algorithm here with mav.SendVelNED or SendV
152
153 cv2.waitKey(1)
```

2. Timer frequency 100Hz

3. Add face recognition xml files

4. Get images from two cameras

5. Image process with OpenCV

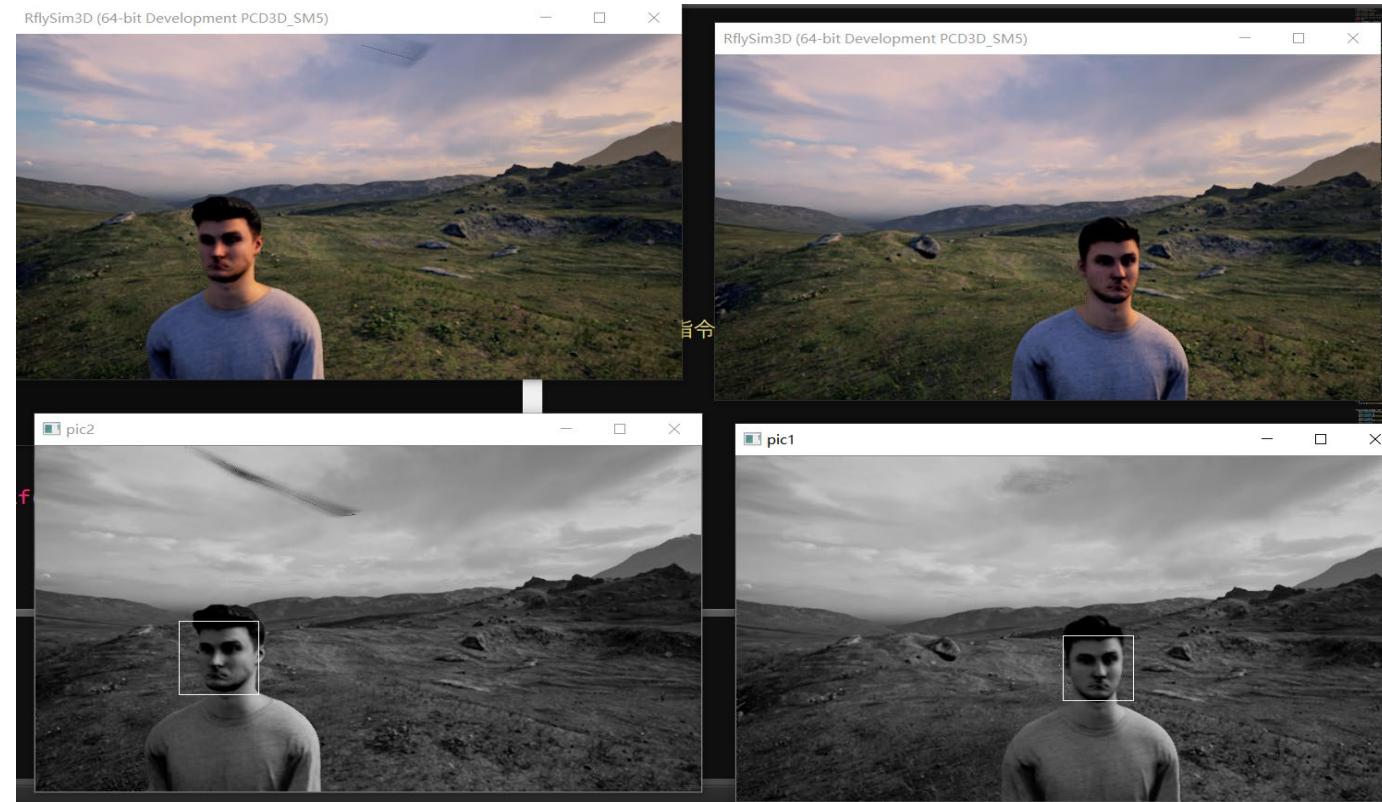
6. Show processed images



4. Examples of binocular vision control

4.6 Binocular vision operation effect of UAV

- Run "**ManDetect3SITL.bat**" or "**ManDetect3HITL.bat**", then run "**ManDetect3.py**"
- Generate a walking person in RflySim3D and set it to face the plane. After the plane takes off, the face recognition algorithm is turned on, and the face is selected by the binocular box
- **Assignment 1:** Update the position of the person in real time, achieve the simulation of the person walking, and write the vehicle tracking controller
- **Assignment 2:** Change to front-view + down-view camera, verify tracking + optical flow algorithm.



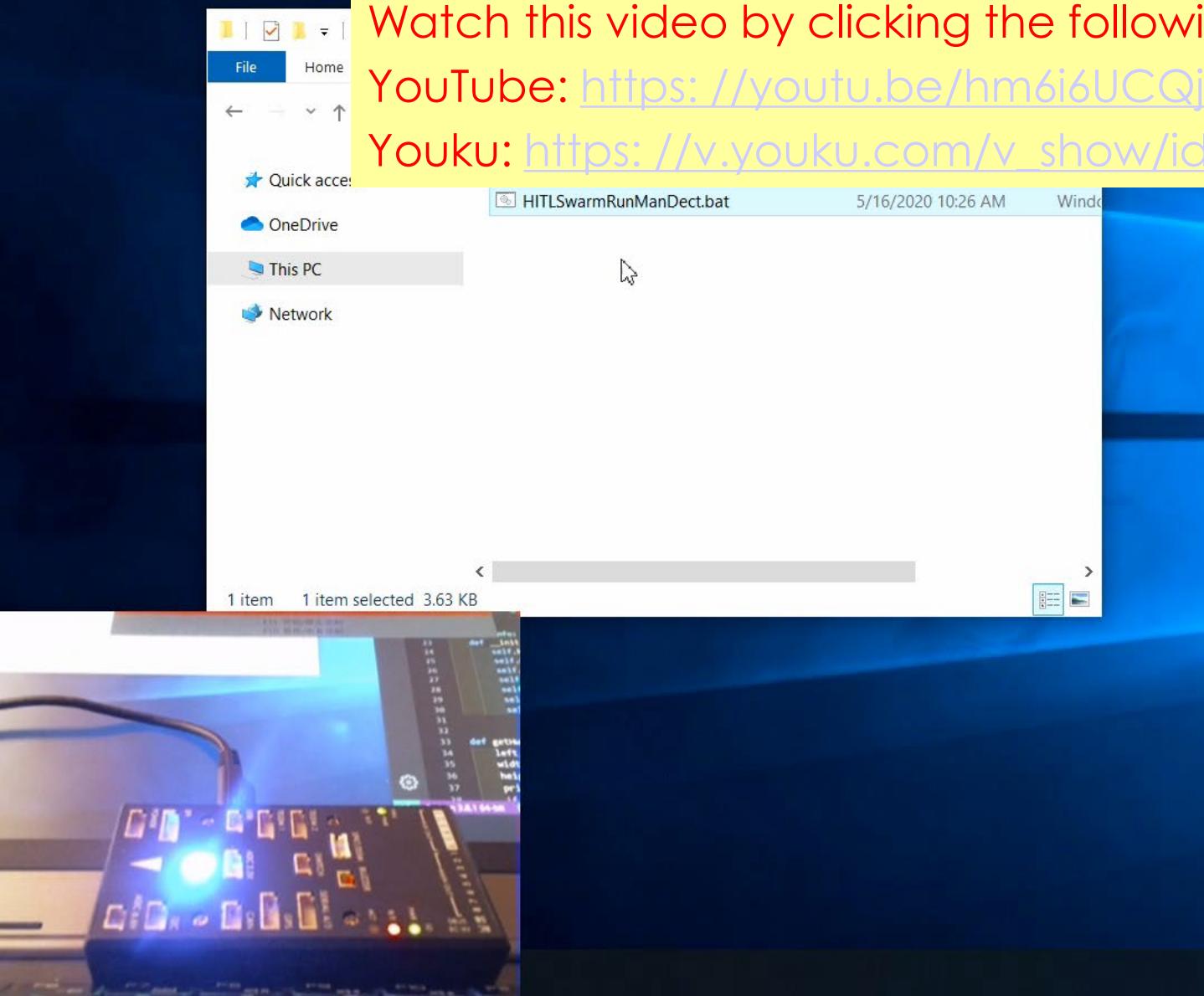
Note: If the computer performance is poor and the flight shakes, you can manually close the last opened RflySim3D window (trailing observation angle), just use the front left and right camera angles

RflySim: Obtain binocular camera images and perform face recognition

Watch this video by clicking the following links:

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/hm6i6UCQjCI>

Youku: https://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XNDcwNjA4NzgxMg==.html



```
11 import cv2
12 import numpy
13 import sys
14 import time
15 import math
16
17 def window_enumeration_handler(hwnd, window_hwnds):
18     if win32gui.GetClassName(hwnd) == "UnrealWindow":
19         window_hwnds.append(hwnd)
20
21
22 class WinInfo:
23     def __init__(self, hWnd, width, height, saveDC, saveBitMap,
24                  self(hWnd),
25                  self.width = width,
26                  self.height = height,
27                  self.saveDC = saveDC,
28                  self.saveBitMap = saveBitMap,
29                  self.mfcDC = mfcDC,
30                  self.hWndDC = hWndDC
31
32
33 def getHwndInfo(hWnd):
34     left, top, right, bot = win32gui.GetClientRect(hWnd)
35     width = right - left
36     height = bot - top
37     print((width, height))
38     if hWnd and width == 0 and height == 0:
```



4. Examples of binocular vision control

4.7 Deployment of UAV Vision Algorithm

- Copy the Python code of the vision control to the onboard computer and replace the RflySim3D vision image with the camera image to complete the deployment of the vision algorithm



RflySim: Binocular flight platform introduction

Watch this video by clicking the following links:

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/hm6i6UCQjCI>

Youku: https://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XNDcwNjA4NzgxMg==.html

e 10min



- Onboard communication interface for vision&Swarm
- Optical flow & laser ranger finder for indoor experiments
- M8N GPS for outdoor experiments
- Visible light camera & Binocular camera
- Onboard TX2 or Raspberry Pi system
- Labels for Optitrack and UWB system



Thanks



北航可靠飞行控制研究组
BUAA Reliable Flight Control Group