



cFS Basecamp Application Developer's Guide



Version 1.16 April 2024



Document Audience and Prerequisites



Objectives

- Describe how to develop apps using cFS Basecamp's Application C Framework (APP_C_FW)
- Basecamp app design patterns are object-based and deviate from some of the design patterns in the cFS Application Developer's Guide

Intended Audience

Software developers (typically flight software) that want to develop Basecamp style cFS applications

Prerequisites

- An understanding of the material in Basecamp's cFS Overview and cFS Framework documents
- Familiarity with the cFS Application Developer's Guide
- C programming experience
- Linux experience

This is a work in progress and not all sections are complete. The symbol is used to indicate a work in progress



Read Before You Proceed!!



- Basecamp app designs do not follow all the NASA app design conventions described in the NASA Application Developer's Guide
- Basecamp serves as a cFS educational platform and its app design provides functionality required by the educational work flows
 - I.e., Users create a new cFS target for a project by selecting and adding apps from a github "app store"
- Why learn the "Basecamp way"?
 - Basecamp's application framework design is based on sound software engineering principles
 - Having a second perspective on designing apps encourages developers to think about their designs with rationale for their decisions
- Basecamp is a testament to the fact that the cFS Framework provides an API and does not dictate application designs



Basecamp App Framework & Design Patterns



- Basecamp Apps use an object-based design using an Application C Framework (APP_C_FW)
- Telecommands and telemetry messages are defined in Electronic Data Sheets
 - Includes constants and types
- JSON files used for tables
 - APP_C_FW supports table management and uses FreeRTOS's JSON parser
 - Each app writes it's own table load/dump functions
- All apps contain a JSON initialization parameter file
 - Contains parameters that can be resolved at runtime
 - C header files only contain parameters that must be defined during compilation
 - Build tools can modify parameters such as message IDs that facilitates Basecamp's app plu 'n play model
- Reset command functionality is app specific and goes beyond counters
 - Reset state must be contained in routine telemetry for verification





Think Systems While Designing Apps



- Designing flight software is a systems engineering endeavor because it is integrates multiple subsystems into a functional system that can be operated remotely
- This documents explains the mechanics of designing and implementing an app
- These concepts are introduced in Basecamp's cFS Framework document and fully addressed in Basecamp's Systems Engineering course



Outline



- 1. Hello App Designs
- 2. Demo App (APP_C_DEMO) Overview
- 3. App Detailed Design
- 4. Electronic Data Sheets
- Design Patterns
- 6. Demo App (APP_C_DEMO) Design
- 7. Refactoring NASA's File Manager App
- 8. TBD: Testing

Outline approach

- This type of document is challenging because you often need to know multiple pieces of information in parallel, but not in depth, and then spiral through the topics again going into more detail
- The "Hello App" coding templates and app_c_demo sections are intended to help with this situation by introducing concepts without too
 much detail so the following sections can go into much more detail
- The File Manager refactoring section is included to help readers that are familiar with the NASA app design approach understand the APP_C_FW approach





Hello App Designs



Introduction

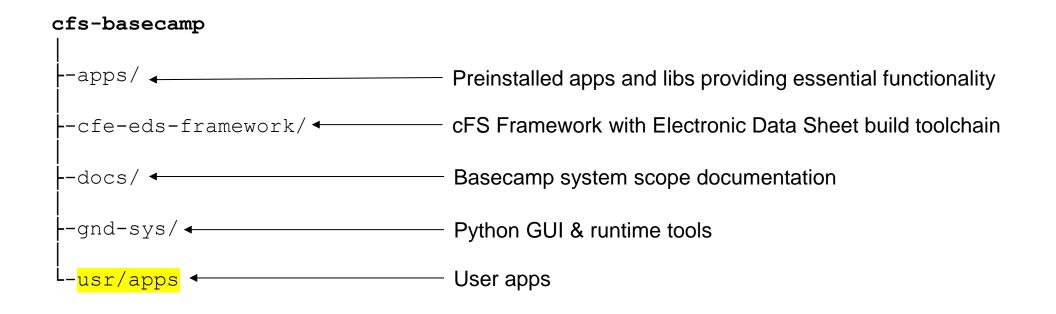


- Basecamp includes a series of "Hello Apps" that are generated from templates
- Each app introduces an app design feature and includes hands-on coding exercises
- This section provides design information that supplements the "Hello App" coding templates
 - This keeps all of the app design information in a single document and each coding template document contains information that helps with the coding exercises
 - Design and coding concepts introduced in this section are explained in greater detail in later sections



Hello Apps Source Code Directory





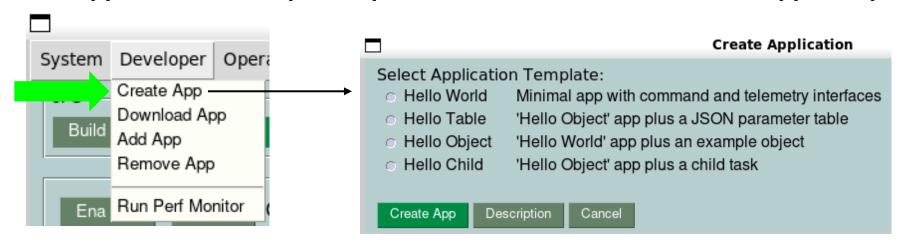
A new directory in cfs-basecamp/usr/apps is created for each Hello App's source code



Creating "Hello Apps"



Select "Create App" in the Developer dropdown menu to access the "Hello App" templates



 After an app is created and the Python GUI is restarted the coding tutorial will be listed in bottom section of the Tutorials dropdown menu

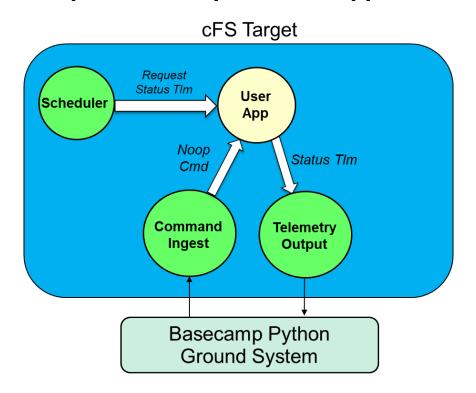




Application Runtime Context



The following diagram is from the cFS Framework document and it shows an app's context with respect to the ops service app suite

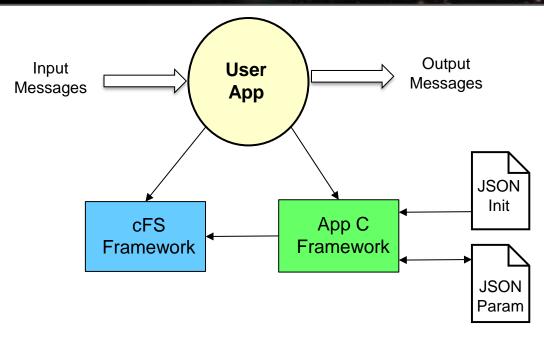


- The next slide describes the user app's context to serve as a starting point for developing apps
- Since the cFS term "housekeeping" is not descriptive for new developers it has been replaced with "status"
 - In addition, many apps such as a controller that execute at a fixed frequency output state information at that frequency and don't reply on a separate "request status telemetry" message



Application Context





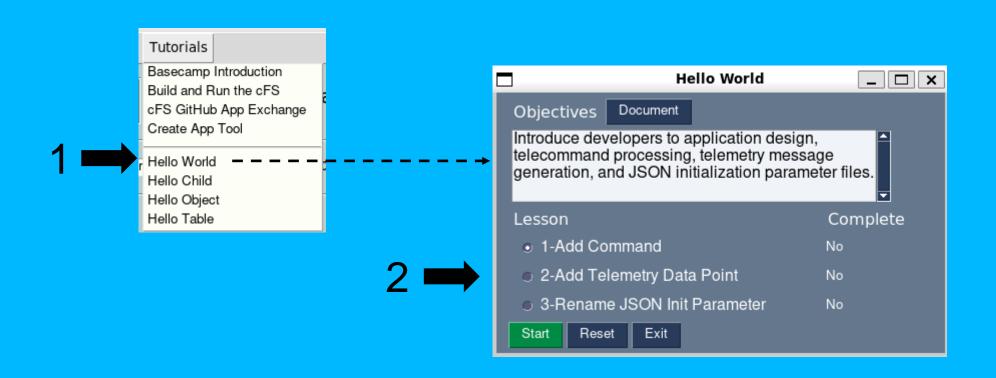
- This is the cFS Basecamp application context
 - Apps may have additional interfaces such as an app-specific library
 - When developing apps it's good practice to draw the app's detailed context to clearly define and understand it's interfaces
- Input and output messages can either be command or telemetry messages
 - This flexibility allows apps to work in groups to provide mission functionality
- Apps make function calls to the cFS Framework APIs
- Apps make function calls to Basecamp's App C Framework (APP_C_FW) API
- Every app has a JSON initialization parameter file and optionally one or more JSON parameter files
 - JSON files are managed and parsed using APP_C_FW services



cFS Basecamp Exercises: Hello World



- 1. Read through this section for a basic understanding of the Hello World app
- 2. From the Tutorial dropdown list select "Hello World" and do the Lessons
 - Refer back to these slides as needed to deepen your understanding





Minimal App Functionality



- Basecamp's "Hello World" app template implements the minimal functionality required by an app
 - Create a Software Bus "Pipe" and register to receive messages
 - Accept command messages and execute command-specific functions
 - Output status telemetry
- The following functionality and design/code patterns evolved based on NASA/Goddard's experience with Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites
 - If the app successfully initializes, send an event message identifying the app version
 - Provide evidence that each app has successfully started and it's the expected version
 - Provide command valid and command invalid counters in periodic status telemetry
 - Allows the ground operators to confirm that a command was received and processed with either a successful or unsuccessful outcome
 - Send a "housekeeping" telemetry message at a constant periodic rate
 - Housekeeping is a NASA/Goddard colloquial term. From a telemetry message perspective it means status. From a periodic execution perspective it's time when an app can do "housekeeping chores" like check if a new table is available.
 - · Includes command counters so they can be checked after sending a command
 - Provide a "No Operation (NOOP)" command that increments the command valid counter and sends an event message containing the app version
 - Allows the ground operators to confirm the communication path to an app is operational and that the app is functioning properly
 - Provide a "Reset Counters" command that clears the command counters



Basecamp Minimal App Functionality



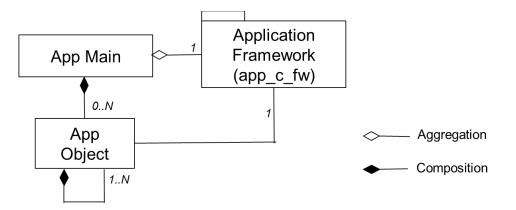
- Basecamp apps include the NASA/Goddard design patterns with a few additions and augmentations
- Basecamp apps use Basecamp's Application C Framework (APP_C_FW)
 - Provides application services and utilities that support object-based designs
 - Developers can focus on developing app functional objects
- Define command and telemetry messages using Electronic Data Sheets
- Use a JSON initialization parameter file to define runtime configurations
 - cFS target management tools can modify these files that facilitates automated system integration
 - Read during an app's initialization
 - Many mission and platform configurations traditionally defined in C header files are defined in this initialization file
- APP_C_FW Command Manager
 - Apps register each object's command functions with the Command Manager
 - When a command message is received, Command Manager calls the corresponding command function
- The Reset Counter command is called a Reset App and has a broader scope than just resetting counters
 - The Reset App command results in an app's status being reset to an app-specific default state
 - Each object within an app provides a reset function that is called
 - If a status item is affected by the reset command then it should be included in a periodic telemetry message so the new status can be verified



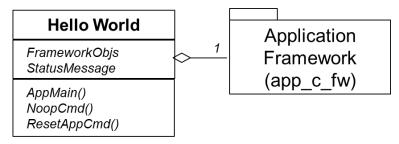
Application Design Overview



- This is a brief introduction into Basecamp's app design framework to provide context for the coding exercises
 - Complete detailed design descriptions are provide in later sections
- Here's a Unified Modeling Language (UML) representation of an app's architecture



- The "App C Framework" is a package available to all apps
- Apps are composed zero or more objects
- Objects are composed zero or more objects
- The Hello World app is the simplest app with no objects





Hello World Directory Structure

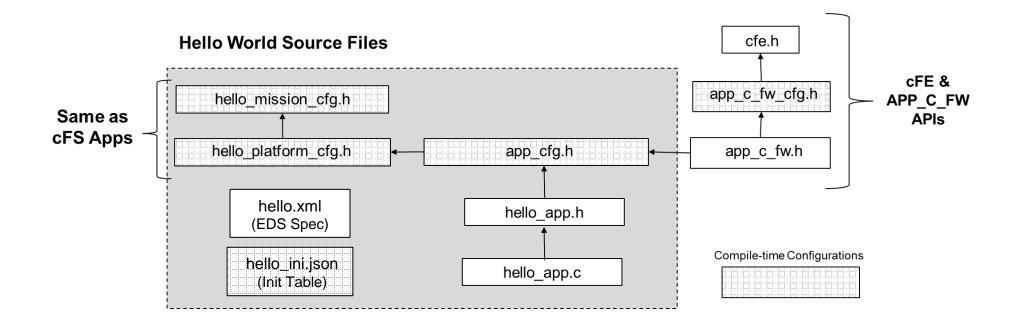


```
cfs-basecamp/usr/apps/hi world
 -eds/
  L-hi world.xml . . . . . . Electronic Data Sheet spec defining app's interface
 fsw/
  --mission inc/
   L-hi world mission cfg.h . . Configurations for every app instance in a mission
   -platform inc/
   L-hi world platform cfg.h. . Configurations for each app platform instantiation
   -src/
    -app cfg.h . . . . . . Configurations intrinsic to the app
    -hi world.c
    L-hi world.h
   -tables/
    L-cpul hi world ini.json . . Configurations that are processed during app's initialization
 -CMakeLists.txt
L-hi world.json . . .
```



Hello World Source Files





- The next slide describes the role of each file
- The build tools create header files (not shown) from the EDS spec
- Each Basecamp app defines it's own app_cfg.h file that defines the initialization table parameters and serves as a centralized point for other configuration header files including some generated from the EDS spec (not shown)



Hello World Source Files

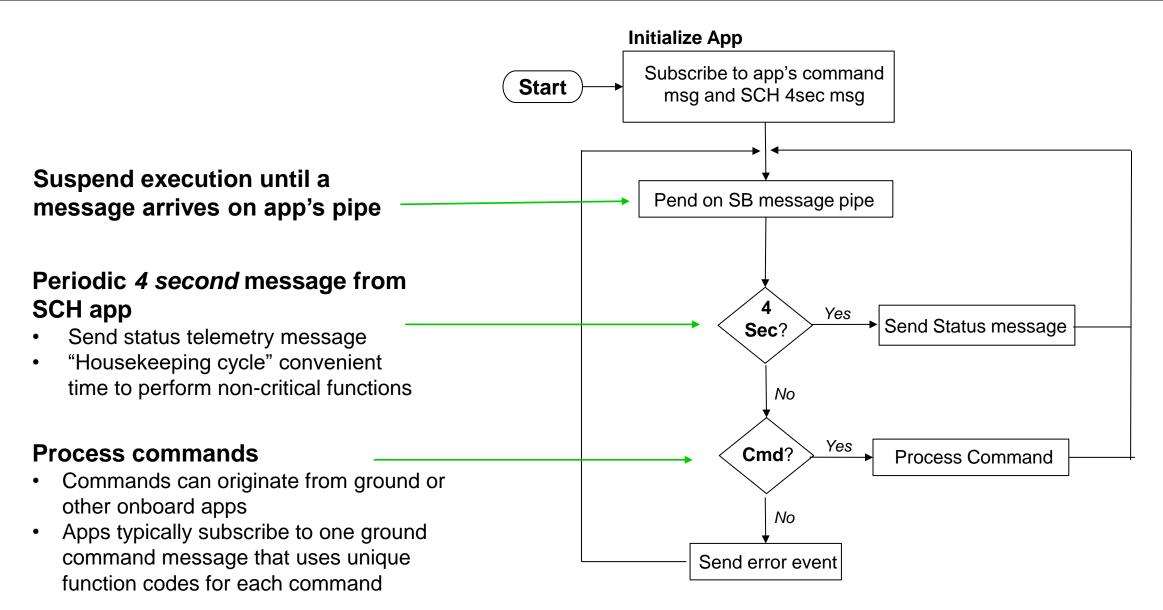


Header File	Purpose
hello_mission_cfg.h	Analogous to cFS app mission config header in scope. Only contains parameters that must be defined during compilation, otherwise they should be in hello.ini.
hello_platform_cfg.h	Analogous to cFS app platform config header in scope. Only contains parameters that must be defined during compilation, otherwise they should be in hello.ini.
app_cfg.h	Every Basecamp app has a header with this name. Configurations have an application scope that define parameters that shouldn't need to change across deployments. If they need to change across deployments then they should be in mission/platform config files.
app_c_fw.h	Defines the API for the Application C Framework by including all of the framework component public header files
app_c_fw_cfg.h	Defines platform-scoped configuration parameters for the framework. The defaults should accommodate most deployments. The configurations must meet the needs of all appson a platform sharing the framework.
cfe.h	Defines the cFE API and included by the framework so Basecamp definitions can build on cFE definitions.
hello_app.h	Demo app's "class structure" that's serves as the root of the object hierarchy
hello.xml	Electronic Data Sheet (EDS) specification for primarily application message definitions
hello_ini.json	Configuration parameters that are read by the app when it initializes



Hello World App Main Loop Execution



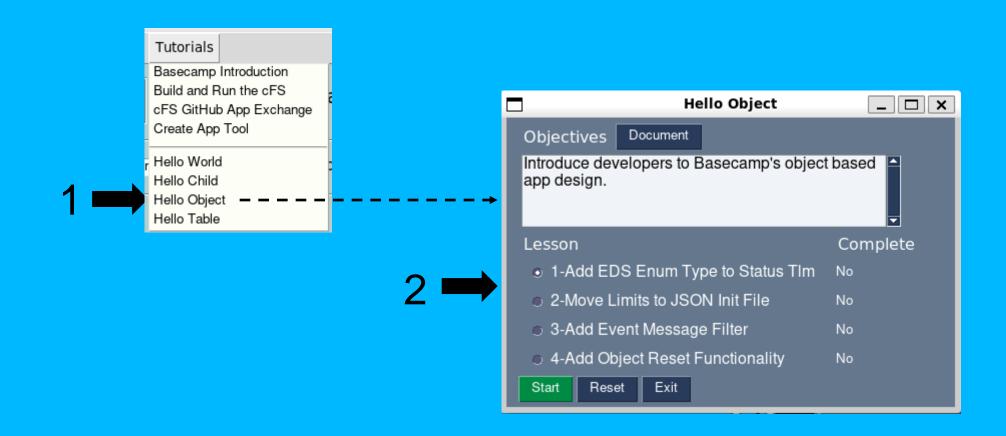




cFS Basecamp Exercises: Hello Object



- 1. Read through this section for a basic understanding of the Hello Object app
- 2. From the Tutorial dropdown list select "Hello Object" and do the Lessons
 - Refer back to these slides as needed to deepen your understanding





Hello Object App Functionality



The Hello Object app adds an example object to the Hello World app

The Hello World coding exercise additions are <u>not</u> part of the Hello World app baseline

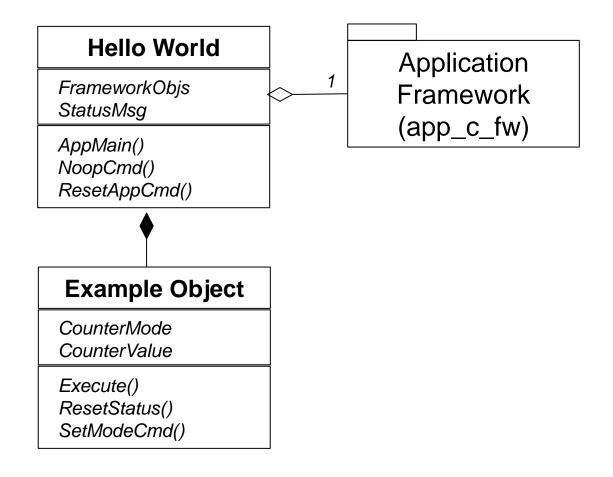
The example object performs the following functions

- Provides an up/down counter that can either be in an increment or decrement mode
- Provides a command to set the counter mode
- Defines lower and upper counter limits
- The counters 'wrap around' using the limits
 - In increment mode when the upper limit is reached the counter value is set to the lower limit
 - In decrement mode when the lower limit is reached the counter value is set to the upper limit
- The counter runs at 1Hz
- The counter defaults to increment mode starting at the low limit
- The current counter value and counter mode are in the status telemetry message.



Hello Object Design



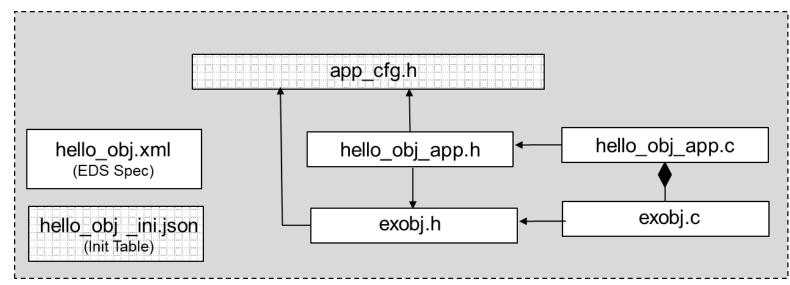




Hello Object Source Files



App Source Files



- app_cfg.h has additional 'standard' includes that are not shown, see TBD for details
- Hello_obj includes exobj.h so it can declare an instance of EXOBJ in its class data

```
typedef struct
  ** App Framework
  INITBL Class t IniTbl;
  CMDMGR Class t CmdMgr;
  ** Telemetry Packets
  HELLO OBJ StatusTlm t StatusTlm;
  ** HELLO OBJ State & Contained Objects
  uint32
               PerfId;
  CFE SB PipeId t CmdPipe;
  CFE SB MsgId t CmdMid;
  CFE SB MsqId t ExecuteMid;
  CFE SB MsgId t SendStatusMid;
  EXOBJ Class t ExObj;
} HELLO OBJ Class t;
```



Hello Object App Main Loop Execution



Suspend execution until a message arrives on app's pipe

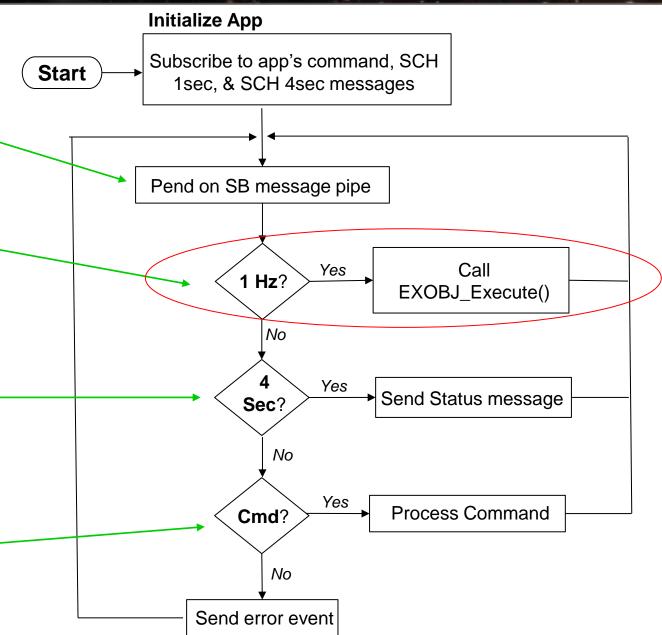
Periodic 1Hz message from SCH app (added to Hello World)

Periodic 4 second message from SCH app

- Send status telemetry message
- "Housekeeping cycle" convenient time to perform non-critical functions

Process commands

Commands can originate from ground or other onboard apps





cFS Basecamp Exercises: Hello Table



- 1. Read through this section for a basic understanding of the Hello Table app
- 2. From the Tutorial dropdown list select "Hello Table" and do the Lessons
 - Refer back to these slides as needed to deepen your understanding

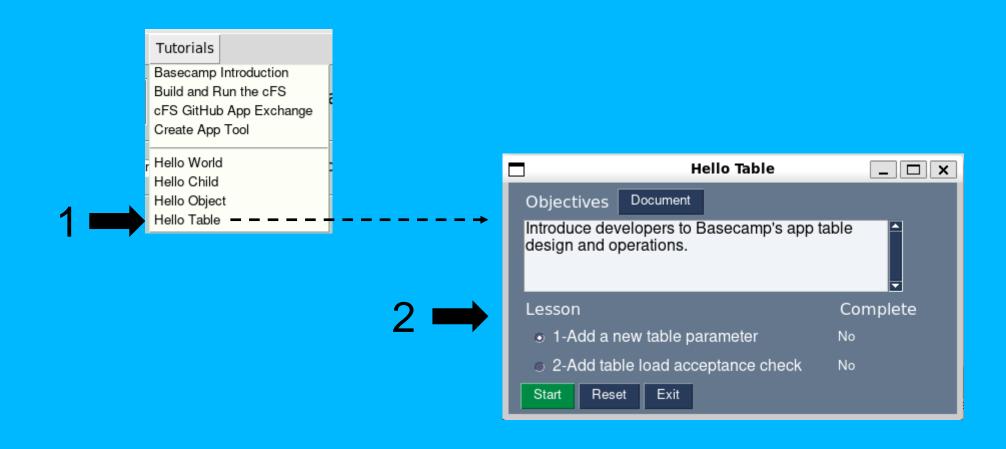




Table Introduction



- Basecamp's JSON tables serve the same purpose as cFS binary tables
 - Tables are a collection of related parameters that could potentially change during runtime
- If the app only has a couple of parameters then parameter command(s) may be easy to use than a table
- If there's a very low chance of a parameter changing during runtime and restarting the app is acceptable if the parameter ever needs to change then the app's init file may be suitable
- The APP_C_FW table service uses the same JSON parser as app init parameter service
 - Table parsing includes support for floating point parameters
- The object that owns the table object has the option to provide a table validation function
 - This function is called as part of the Table Load command and the table values will not be used if validation fails



Hello Table App Functionality



Functional modifications to Hello Object

- The EDS-defined Counter Mode type is in the status telemetry message (retained from coding lesson)
- The EXOBJ_Execute() event message is defined as a DEBUG event and an event filter allows the first 8 events to be published (retained from coding lesson)
- The App reset command resets the event filter. EXOBJ does not have any reset behavior.
- The counter limits are defined in a new parameter

Additional functionality

- The increment and decrement modes have separate low and high limits
- The Set Mode command sends the limits in an information event message
- A Table Load command reads/parses a JSON table file and loads the new parameters values into variables
- A table load callback acceptance function, owned by EXOBJ, is called when a new table is loaded. The
 default functionality is to accept the table and send an event message. A coding lesson adds functionality to
 the acceptance function.
- A Table Dump command creates a JSON table file using the parameters values from variables



Hello Table Design (1 of 2)



пспо_арр.с

Hello Table HELLO_Class Hello HELLO_AppMain() HELLO_NoOpCmd() HELLO_ResetCmd()

exobj.h exobj.c

ExObj

EXOBJ Class ExObj

EXOBJ_Constructor()
EXOBJ_ResetStatus()
EXOBJ_SetModeCmd()
EXOBJ_Execute()

exobjtbl.h exobjtbl.c

ExObjTbl

EXOBJTBLTBL Class ExObjTbl

EXOBJTBL_Constructor()
EXOBJTBL_ResetStatus()
EXOBJTBL_DumpCmd()
EXOBJTBL LoadCmd()

- The App C Framework is an object-based design written in C
- Apps are constructed as an aggregation of objects
 - Hello Table contains one Example Object (ExObj)
 - ExObj contains one Example Object Table (ExObjTbl)
 - The object hierarchy can be as wide or deep as needed
- The key roles of the main app are to
 - Read the app's JSON initialization configuration file
 - Initialize contained objects and register their commands
 - Manage the main control loop
- Contained objects implement the 'business logic'
 - ExObj increments a counter during each execution cycle
 - ExObj's Set Mode command supports increment and decrement
 - ExObjTbl defines the counter's lower and upper limits



Hello Table Design (2 of 2)



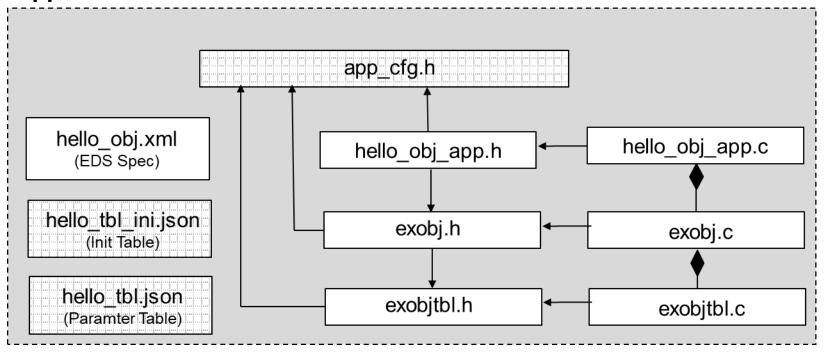
- The app_c_fw TBLMGR object is owned by the app and is constructed prior to constructing objects owned by the app that need to register a table
 - EXOBJ owns and constructs the table
- The default table name is defined in an app's init table
 - The init parameter name is defined in app_cfg.h
- app_c_fw defines common command codes for the table load and dump commands
 - All apps that have tables with use the same command codes just like the Noop and Reset commands
- By convention, apps with tables report the last table action and action status in their status telemetry



Hello Table Source Files



App Source Files





Hello Table Header Files



hello_table.h

97 typedef struct

```
98 {
      99
     100
            ** App Framework
     101
     102
     103
                               IniTbl:
            INITBL Class t
     104
            CMDMGR Class t
     105
                               CmdMgr;
            TBLMGR Class t
                               TblMgr;
     106
     107
     108
            ** Command Packets
     109
     110
     111
     112
     113
            ** Telemetry Packets
     114
     115
     116
            HELLO HkPkt t HkPkt;
     117
     118
     119
            ** HELLO State & Contained Objects
     120
     121
     122
            CFE SB PipeId t
                              CmdPipe;
     123
     124
            CFE SB MsgId t
                              CmdMid;
            CFE SB MsgId t
                              ExecuteMid:
     125
                              SendHkMid;
            CFE_SB_MsgId_t
     126
     127
            uint32
                              PerfId;
     128
            EXOBJ Class t ExObj;
     129
     130
Basecam 131 } HELLO_Class_t;
```

Use a variation of the 'singleton" design pattern

exobj.h

82 {

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

96

97 }

81 typedef struct

*/

/*

** State Data

EXOBJ Class t;

EXOBJ CounterModeType t

uint16 CounterValue;

Contained Objects

EXOBJTBL_Class_t Tbl; -

- Object constructors passed reference to owner's storage
- void EXOBJ Constructor(EXOBJ Class t *ExObjPtr, ...);
- EXOBJ uses a static variable to store pointer so subsequent EXOBJ function (i.e. method) calls don't require
 a pointer to be passed

CounterMode;

exobjtbl.h

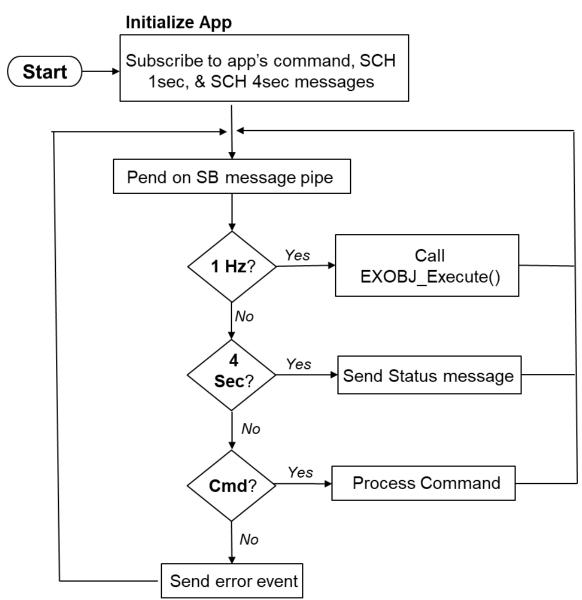
```
73 typedef struct
74 {
75
76
77
     ** Table parameter data
78
79
80
     EXOBJTBL Data t Data;
81
82
83
     ** Standard CJSON table data
     */
84
85
86
                   AppName;
     const char*
                   Loaded;
87
     bool
                              /* Has
88
     uint8
                   LastLoadStatus;
     uint16
                   LastLoadCnt;
89
90
                   JsonObjCnt;
91
     size t
     char
                   JsonBuf[EXOBJTBL
93
     size_t
                   JsonFileLen;
94
    EXOBJTBL_Class_t;
```



Hello Table App Main Loop Execution



Same logic as Hello Object

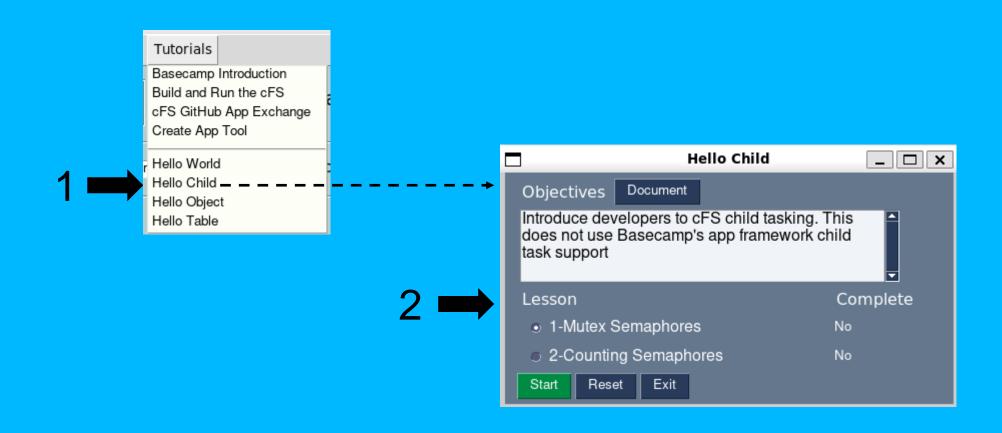




cFS Basecamp Exercises: Hello Child



- Read through this section for a basic understanding the Hello Child app
- 2. From the Tutorial dropdown list select "Hello Child" and do the Lessons
 - Refer back to these slides as needed to deepen your understanding





Child Task Introduction



- cFS apps can create one of more child tasks to perform functions that run in an execution thread separate from the parent app
 - The execution thread implementation is specific to the cFS target platform
- Child resource are owned by the parent app
- Parent and child share memory address space
 - Use semaphores to prevent simultaneous memory access conflicts
- Convention is to create child tasks when the parent app initializes
 - System initialization timing is usually less stringent and dynamic resource management is minimized when the system is operational
 - Helps establish a deterministic operational state for realtime systems that have strict timing requirements
- Common use cases
 - Low priority CPU intensive background tasks, e.g. File Manager and Checksum apps
 - High priority, typically short duration, e.g. MQTT Gateway app
 - See the child task 'Use Cases' and examples to help guide your decision



Hello Child Design



Hello World

FrameworkObjs StatusPkt

AppMain()
NoopCmd()
ResetAppCmd()



Example Object

CounterMode CounterValue

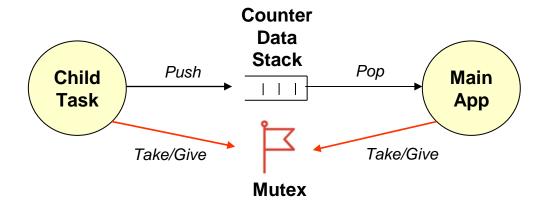
ChildTask()
ResetStatus()
SetChildDelayCmd()
SetCounterModeCmd()
StackPop()

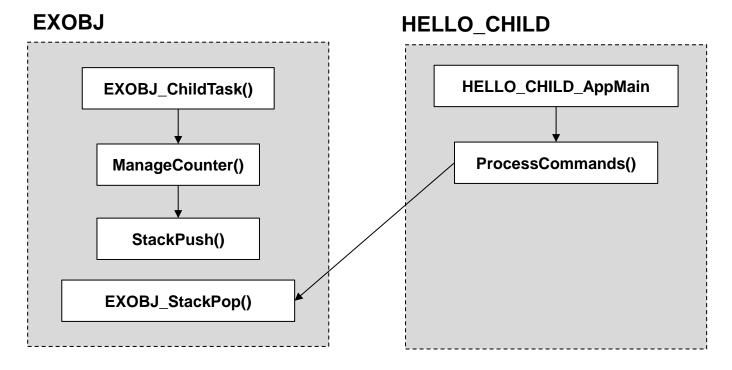
- The Hello Child app has the same objects as the Hello Object app however the public interface has changed to accommodate running the Execute() function as a child task
 - EXOBJ_ChildTask() replaces EXOBJ_Execute()



Hello Child App Design (2 of 2)







- Coding lesson 1 adds the stack functionality
- A Mutex Semaphore is used to coordinate access to the shared Counter Data Stack
- The cFS naming convention is to prefix global functions with the object's name





APP_C_DEMO Overview



APP_C_DEMO Introduction



- The APP_C_DEMO app is included in Basecamp's default app suite
- Basecamp's built-in tutorials use APP_C_DEMO to help user's quickly learn how to use Basecamp
- APP_C_DEMO's features and design provide a fully functional non-trivial app that
 - Goes beyond the simple Hello apps that are designed to teach a specific feature of cFS apps
 - Is easy for users to quickly understand and operate
 - Has enough complexity so it can be used illustrate most Basecamp operational features and use a large percentage of the APP_C_FW framework
 - Note APP_C_DEMO functions are designed to help teach app development concepts and may not be practical for a space mission
- This section describes APP_C_DEMO from an operational perspective so users can use APP_C_DEMO to learn Basecamp's features
- APP _C_DEMO's design is described in a later section and its design will be used to help developers understand developing apps with the APP _C_FW



APP_C_DEMO Functions



- APP_C_DEMO computes a histogram for a randomly generated integer designated as "Device Data"
 - The histogram JSON table defines the histogram bin limits
- The following commands control the app's functionality
 - Start Histogram
 - Start computing a histogram that is reported in the Status Telemetry message
 - Stop Histogram
 - Start Histogram Log
 - Create a log file containing time-stamped entries for a command-specified bin up to a command-specified number of entries
 - Stop Histogram Log
 - Start Histogram Log Playback
 - Loop through the histogram log file sending each entry in a telemetry message
 - Stop Histogram Log Playback





Status Telemetry



The status telemetry message is sent at a 1Hz rate

- APP_C_DEMO's JSON ini file contains an entry for the Basecamp Scheduler app's 1 Hz message BC_SCH_1_HZ_TOPICID
- The random *Device Data* is generated at 1Hz so each value is telemetered

Key status message entries include:

- Valid/Invalid command counters for the main app and child task
- The last table action performed and its status
- Current Device Data
- The last table

```
<Entry name="DeviceData"
                              type="BASE TYPES/uint16" />
                                                               <Entry name="DeviceDataModulo"</pre>
                                                                                                 type="BASE TYPES/uint16" />
                                                                                                                                   <Entry
name="HistEna"
                     type="APP_C_FW/BooleanUint16" />
                                                             <Entry name="HistMaxValue"
                                                                                            type="BASE_TYPES/uint16" />
                                                                                                                              <Entry
name="HistSampleCnt"
                         type="BASE_TYPES/uint32" />
                                                           <Entry name="HistBinCntStr"
                                                                                         type="BASE TYPES/PathName"
                                                                                                                          shortDescription="CSV text
string for each bin count" />
                               <Entry name="HistLogEna"
                                                             type="APP C FW/BooleanUint16" />
                                                                                                    <Entry name="HistLogBinNum"
type="BASE TYPES/uint16" />
                                 <Entry name="HistLogCnt"
                                                               type="BASE TYPES/uint16" />
                                                                                                 <Entry name="HistLogMaxEntries"</pre>
type="BASE TYPES/uint16" />
                                 <Entry name="HistLogPlaybkEna"
                                                                  type="APP C FW/BooleanUint16" />
                                                                                                          <Entry name="HistLogPlaybkCnt"</pre>
type="BASE_TYPES/uint16" />
                                 <Entry name="HistLogFilename"</pre>
                                                                  type="BASE_TYPES/PathName" />
```





Initialization File



- "DEVICE_DATA_MODULO": 100,
- "HIST_LOG_FILE_PREFIX": "/cf/hist_bin_",
- "HIST_LOG_FILE_EXTENSION": ".txt",
- "HIST_TBL_LOAD_FILE": "/cf/app_c_hist_tbl.json",
- "HIST_TBL_DUMP_FILE": "/cf/app_c_hist_tbl~.json"





Histogram Table File



```
"bin-cnt": 5,
  "bin": [
       "lo-lim": 0,
       "hi-lim": 19
       "lo-lim": 20,
       "hi-lim": 39
       "lo-lim": 40,
       "hi-lim": 59
       "lo-lim": 60,
       "hi-lim": 79
       "lo-lim": 80,
       "hi-lim": 99
```

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Electronic Data Sheets





Overview



cfsat_defs

- Topicids.xml
- Config/xml

EDS has an app level scope

- Type definitions are prefixed with the app name and are not refined to the object level
- Add #include "<app>_eds_typedefs.h" to app_cfg.h to make EDS defined types available to every apppbject
- This does not align with the OSK object-based model
 - Naming conventions are not completely followed
 - Global type definition inclusion increases object coupling and reduces information hiding

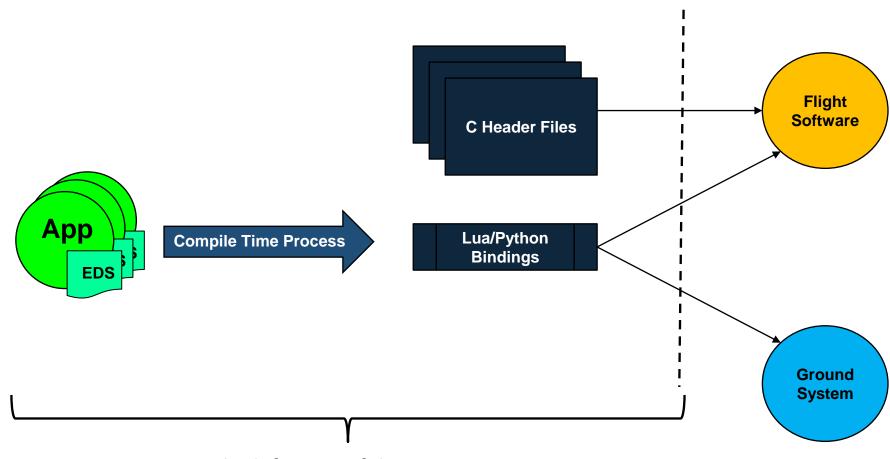
- #include "<app>_eds_cc.h" in app' main c file





Electronic Data Sheet Workflow





Single definition of data in EDS propagates to rest of system.





EDS TODO



- EDS overview and global definitions
- OSK App EDS file organization & conventions
- Topic ID tool
- EDS conventions and tips for developing your code
- Since commands use function codes within a single command message the naming conventions differs from the telemetry messages.
- Describe EDS naming conventions: Joe's and mine. Use demo app
- LoadTbl_CmdPayload
- StatusTIm_Payload
- <Entry type="LoadTbl_CmdPayload" name="Payload" />
- <ComponentSet> <Component name="Library"> didn't produce EDS interface in python library. I think Compnent_name must be "Application"





osk_def Directory



Targets.cmake

- Identifies the target architectures and configurations
- Identifies the apps to be built
- Identifies files that will be copied from sample_def to platform specific directories

Copied file examples

- cpu1_cfe_es_startup.scr
- cpu1_msgids.h
- Cpu1_osconfig.h

Describe topicids tool





Application Framework Architecture





Basecamp Application Framework Introduction



Motivation

- Since the cFS is a message-based system many apps have a common control and data flow structure
- A common object-based framework (written in C) helps enforce a modular design that has many benefits
 - Increased code reuse across apps which increases reliability and reduces testing
 - Common app structure reduces learning curve when adopting new apps and simplifies maintenance
 - The framework supports the app features/interfaces required by the Basecamp app package specification which allows apps to be publish and exchanged
- Coupling and cohesion are not easy to measure and often reveal themselves during maintenance. When you make a change observe how the change is manifested. Is it localized? How many components are impacted? Are details encapsulated behind an API?
 - See the File Manager refactor analysis section for how APP_C_FW-based design can improve these attributes

app_c_demo is used as a concrete example to help users use this document

- It is part of Basecamp's default app suite so users can immediately start to interact with it
- It's a non-trivial app that performs onboard data processing functions and its design were intentionally chosen to help users understand an appetract that will most likely be a part of their mission

This document relies on consistent versioning and compatibility between the following Basecamp components that each have their own git repos

- cfe-eds-framework: Defines the core Flight Executive (cFE) Electronic Data Sheet (EDS) specs
- app_c_fw: OpenSatKit application framework library
- app_c_demo: Example app that shows best practices for using osk_c_fw and creating apps that can be published and share application Developer's Guide



Introduction



The OSK C Application Framework is light-weight object-based framework for writing cFS applications in C

- The framework library is named osk_c_fw which will be used as this document's shorthand notation
- What does object-based mean?
 - Applications are a composition of objects where an object is the bundling of data and functions (aka methods) that implement a single concept that is identified by the object's name
 - Coding idioms implement the object oriented (OO) concepts rather than trying to create artificial OO constructs implemented in C
 - Even enforcing a couple of software engineering principles** such as the Single Responsibility and Open/Closed principles can result in significant improvements
- OSK_C_DEMO is a fully functioning cFS app that is delivered as part of OSK's Research & Development (R&D) Sandbox target
 - Uses many of osk_c_fw's features and serves as the end-goal for the app development tutorial
 - This guide uses it as a reference app implementation to illustrate how osk_c_fw is used



Object-based Design Conventions (1 of 2)



- Each object is defined using two files: The .h file defines the object's specification (i.e., interface) and the .c file
 defines the object's methods both public and private
 - The base filename is the object's name although sometimes due underscores, abbreviations or acronyms they are not exact. Regardless of whether they're exact the object name should be consistent.
 - All global identifiers (macros, types, and functions) are prefixed with the capitalized object name followed by an underscore to minimize the chances of a global name clash. Type definitions end in "t" which is consistent with the cFS.
 - The osk_c_fw library Command Manager object will be used as a concrete example, and it can be referenced to illustrate a complete
 example. Command Manager files are cmdmgr.h and cmdmgr.c and the global object prefix is "CMDMGR".
 - TODO: be aware of common object names that could cause a global name space collision.
- The header file (i.e., cmdmgr.h) uses the following conventions
 - Preprocessor header file "guards" are used to protect against the multiple definition if the header is included more than once. The naming convention is to use the base filename with leading and trailing underscores:

```
#ifndef _cmdmgr_
#define _cmdmgr_
    Header file contents
#endif /* _cmdmgr_ */
```

- To enhance readability Basecamp header files always follow the same order
 - Constants (macros), typedefs, exported (global) function prototypes
- What should be in a header file
 - Only constants, typedefs and function definitions that need to be global
 - Every object defines a typedef for a class structure using the OBJECT_Class_t convention (i.e., CMDMGR_Class_t)
- What should not be in a header file
 - Variables should not be declared.
 - For reusable apps/libraries, configuration parameters that may be changed in future instantiations (covered later)



Object-based Design Conventions (2 of 2)



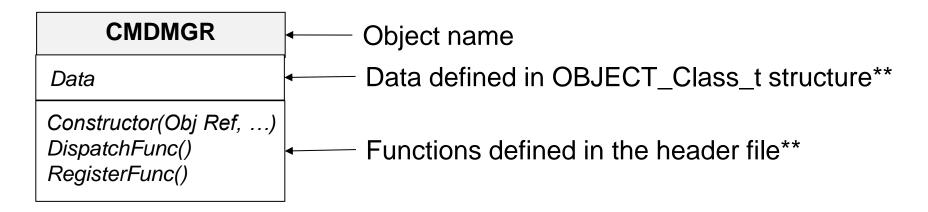
- The source file or body file (object-oriented terminology) at a minimum implements all the object's global functions (aka methods)
- The source file may also include local definitions for constants, typedefs and functions
 - Local names should be meaningful and may follow a local naming convention, but they should not be prefixed with the object's global name prefix. This makes it easy for someone reading the code to immediately understand the scope of a particular name.
 - Data and functions global to the source file are defined as static to limit their scope and not clutter the global namespace
- To enhance readability Basecamp source files always follow the same order
 - Macro constants, typedefs, global file data, local (static) function prototypes, global function implementation
- File prologue and function comments also play an important role in code readability and maintenance
 - Design related information is typically captures in a list of Notes
 - File prologue notes should provide important/relevant object-level design information. What's is its role? Is there important rationale that should be provided for understanding why the object's interface is defined like it is? This
 - Function prologue notes should provide implementation level rationale.



Object-based Design Conventions (3 of 3)



The following Unified Modeling Language object notation is used in this document



^{**} If data or functions are not relevant to the context in which the object diagram is being used then it should not be shown in order to enhance readability.



Configuration Strategy



Build time

- Application -
- Deployment Mission tuning

Runtime

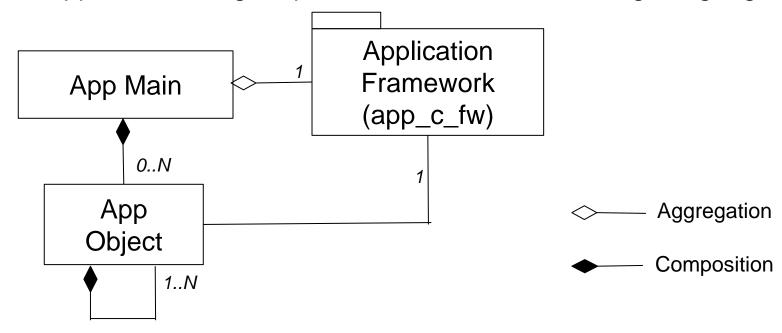
- Initialization
- Runtime



OSK Framework-based Application Architecture



Here's the top-level application design represented in Unified Modeling Language (UML)



- **Aggregation** represents a relationship where the contained object (unfilled diamond connector) can exist independent of the owner
 - Conceptually one app_c_fw exists for all applications
- Composition represents a relationship where the contained cannot exist independent of the owner
 - Application objects exists to provide behavior and functionality and they only exist within the context of the application
- These are conceptual definitions, from an implementation perspective an application is the hierarchical aggregation of objects



Application Framework Components



Component	Source File	Description
Initialization Table	inittbl	Reads a JSON file containing key-value definitions and provides functions for accessing these values
Command Manager	cmdmgr	Provides a command registration service and manages dispatching commands
Table Manager	tblmgr	Provides a table registration service and manages table loads and dumps
Child Task Manager	childmgr	Provides a framework allowing commands and callback functions to execute within a child task
State Reporter	staterep	Manages the generation of a periodic telemetry packet that contains Boolean flags. Provides and API for app objects to set/clear states. Often useful to aggregate fault detection flags into a single packet that can be monitored by another application.
File Utility ¹	fileutil	Utilities for verifying and manipulating files
Packet Utility ¹	pktutil	Utilities for verifying and manipulating packets
CJSON	cjson	Adapter for interfacing to the FreeRTOS coreJSON library
JSON ²	json	Adapter for interfacing to the JSMN JSON library

- 1. Collection of functions that don't have class data (i.e., stateless)
- . This will be deprecated once all of the JSON tables are converted to use cjson

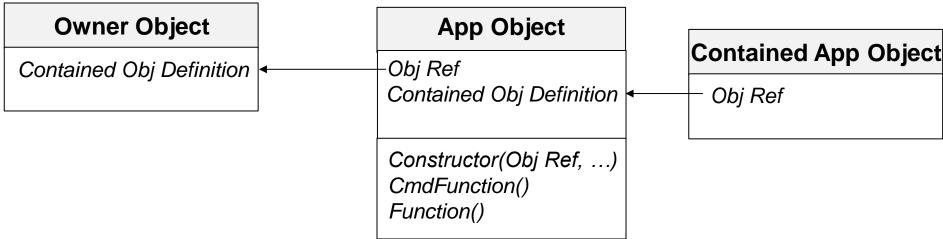
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App Object Design (1 of 2)



- App Objects implement the required behavior and functions for an app
- Objects should be designed to represent a single concept represented by its name
 - Contain properties (data) and methods(functions) that are intrinsic to the scope and responsibilities of that concept
- The figure below shows the object composition model



- Owner objects define the data for objects they contain and pass a reference to the contained object's constructor
- Contained objects store a reference to the owner's instance data
 - Only one instance of an object modeled after the App Object design pattern can exist in an app
 - Analogous to the OO Singleton design pattern without any wrapper protection



App Object Design (2 of 2)



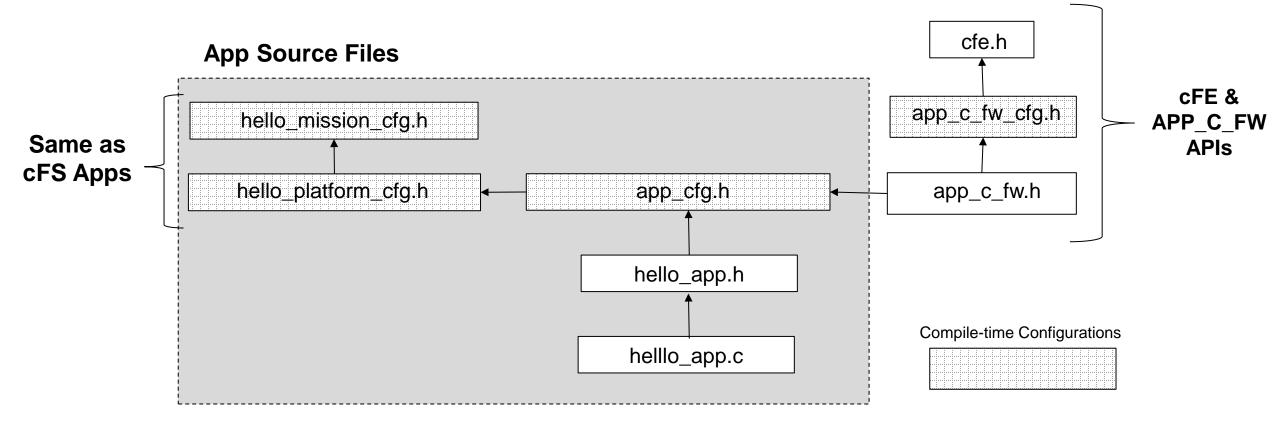
Public App Object functions (or methods) fall into two categories

- Command functions are executed when the parent app receives a command message on the software bus that contains the function's command function code
 - Command functions are registered by the main app during initialization
- All other functions are called by the main app or by other app objects during their execution
- Both types of functions may execute within the app's context or an app child task context
- Command functions are part of the app's public message interface
- The other public app object functions define the app object's public interface within an app
- App Objects can create Software Bus interfaces as needed
- Relative event message ID numbering is used within each App Object
 - Ranges of IDs are managed at the application level
- Table objects are a specialization of an App Object that do not contain other objects
 - They are covered in the Table Manager section
- The App Object model balances simplicity with 'design space' coverage
 - Most apps can follow the basic design pattern, so the benefits of a common app design and reuse are realized, but developers should not feel constrained by the model if it doesn't fit a particular situation



Minimal Header File Inclusion Tree



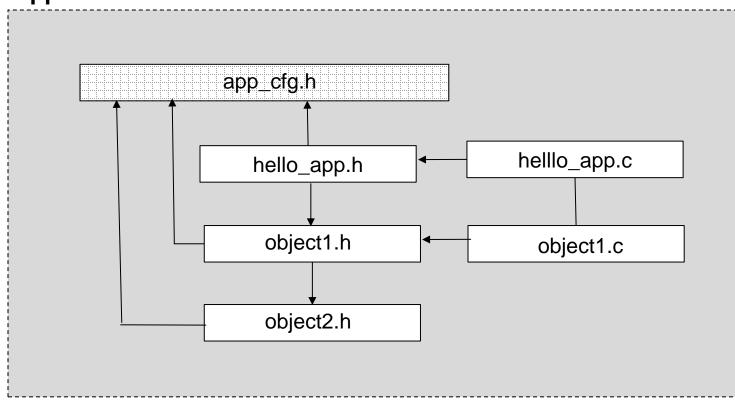




Minimal Header File Inclusion Tree



App Source Files





Object Composition Model – Header File Overview



Header File	Purpose
osk_c_demo_mission_cfg.h	Analogous to cFS app mission config header in scope
osk_c_demo_platform_cfg.h	Analogous to cFS app platform config header in scope, but very few if any parameters should be defined in this header due to other Basecamp app configuration features
app_cfg.h	Every Basecamp app has a header with this name. Configurations have an application scope that define parameters that shouldn't need to change across deployments.
app_c_fw.h	Defines the API for the Application C Framework by including all of the framework component public header files
app_c_fw_cfg.h	Defines platform-scoped configuration parameters for the framework. The defaults should accommodate most deployments. The configurations must meet the needs of all apps sharing the framework on a platform.
cfe.h	Defines the cFE API and included by the framework so Basecamp definitions can build on cFE definitions.
osk_c_demo_app.h	Demo app's "class structure" that's serves as the root of the object hierarchy
msglog.h	Example App Object named message Log. osk_c_demo is its owner and msglogtbl is its contained object
msglogtbl.h	Adapter for interfacing to the FreeRTOS core-JSON library

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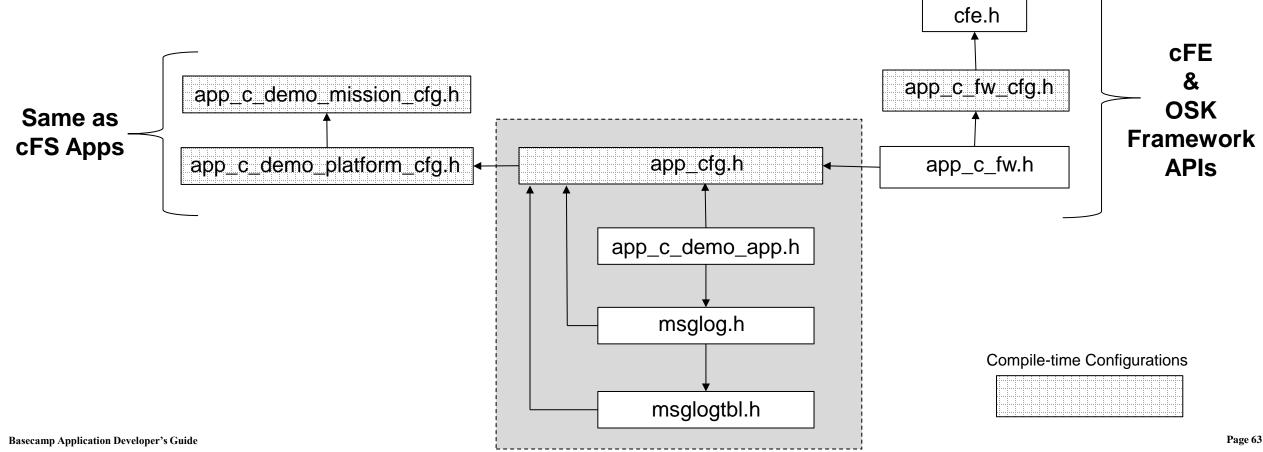
Object Composition Model – Header Files Inclusion Tree



- The osk_c_demo app will be used to show a concrete example of the app object composition model
 - osk_c_demo is covered in detail in a later section and at this step detailed knowledge is not required
- osk_c_demo's header inclusion tree shows the app's structure and dependencies

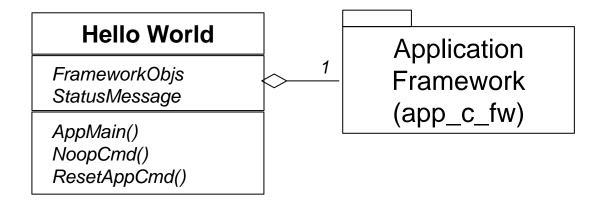
• Every app has an app_cfg.h file that serves as the single point for configuring structural aspects of

the app and including external configurations and APIs











Object Composition Model – Demo App



osk_c_demo.h

```
typedef struct {
   ** App Framework
  INITBL Class
                   IniTbl;
  CFE SB PipeId t CmdPipe;
  CMDMGR Class
                   CmdMqr;
  TBLMGR Class
                   TblMqr;
  CHILDMGR Class ChildMgr;
   ** Command Packets
   PKTUTIL NoParamCmdMsg MsgLogRunChildFuncCmd;
   ** Telemetry Packets
  OSK C DEMO HkPkt HkPkt;
   ** OSK C DEMO State & Child Objects
                   PerfId:
  CFE SB MsgId t CmdMid;
  CFE SB MsqId t ExecuteMid;
  CFE SB MsqId t SendHkMid;
  MSGLOG Class
                   MsqLoq;
} OSK C DEMO Class;
```

1. Instances of framework objects (components)

- Framework objects are <u>not</u> implemented as singletons, so a reference to an instance variable is always passes as the first parameter
- All framework objects are reentrant
- Only define instances for objects needed by the application. IniTbl,
 CmdPipe, and CmdMgr are common in most, if not all apps

2. Command & Telemetry Definitions

- Command packets sent by demo app. This is a special purpose child task command
- Telemetry packets generated by demo app

3. Object State data and Contained Objects



Object Composition Model – Message Log Header



msglog.h

```
typedef struct {
   ** Framework References
   INITBL Class* IniTbl;
   CFE SB PipeId t MsgPipe;
   ** Telemetry Packets
  MSGLOG PlaybkPkt PlaybkPkt; 	
   ** Class State Data
   boolean LogEna;
           LogCnt;
   uint16
          PlaybkEna;
   boolean
            PlaybkCnt;
   uint16
            PlaybkDelay;
   uint16
   uint16
           MsqId;
           FileHandle:
   int32
           Filename[OS MAX PATH LEN];
   char
   ** Child Objects
  MSGLOGTBL Class
MSGLOG Class;
```

Reference to app's initbl instance

This is needed because MsgLog uses some of the initialization parameters

MsgLog has its own SB pipe for reading packets to log

Message playback telemetry packet

MsgLog owns a MsgLogTbl

 All of the table parameters are used by MsgLog algorithms which why MsgLog owns the table



Object Composition Model – Message Log Source



```
msglog.c
    Global File Data **/
      ********
static MSGLOG Class* MsgLog = NULL;
void MSGLOG Constructor (MSGLOG Class* MsqLoqPtr, INITBL Class* IniTbl) ◀
  MsgLog = MsgLogPtr;
  CFE PSP MemSet((void*)MsqLoq, 0, sizeof(MSGLOG Class));
  MsqLoq->IniTbl = IniTbl;
  CFE_SB_CreatePipe(&MsgLog->MsgPipe, INITBL_GetIntConfig(MsgLog->IniTbl, CFG_MSGLOG_PIPE_DEPTH),
                   INITBL GetStrConfig(MsgLog->IniTbl, CFG MSGLOG PIPE NAME));
  CFE SB InitMsg(&MsgLog->PlaybkPkt, (CFE SB MsgId t) INITBL GetIntConfig(MsgLog->IniTbl,
                CFG_PLAYBK_TLM_MID) , sizeof(MSGLOG PlaybkPkt) , TRUE);
  MSGLOGTBL_Constructor(TBL_OBJ, IniTbl); _
} /* End MSGLOG Constructor */
```

Singleton coding idiom

 Parent sends a reference to object's instance data

Initialization Table

- Osk_c_demo owns the IniTbl and passes a reference to any object that needs IniTbl configurations
- This reference can be passed down the composite object hierarchy

Contained Objects constructed by owner



app_cfg.h Contents



Application version

- Defines app's major and minor versions
- If a change is made to any app source file during a deployment, then OSK_C_DEMO_PLATFORM_REV in osk_c_demo_platform_cfg.h should be updated

Initialization table configuration definitions

Define the C macro and JSON object names for each

Command Function Codes

- Define all of the app's command function codes
- This follows the design pattern of a single app command message with the function code being used to distinguish between commands

Event Message Identifiers

Define the base event ID for each App Object

App Object configurations

- These should be compile-time configurations, runtime configurations should be defined in the IniTbl
- Defining these configurations in app_cfg.h breaks the OO encapsulation, but it allows app_cfg.h to serve
 as the app's single point of configuration



Coding Conventions



- There are a couple of coding conventions that help make osk_c_fw-based apps consistent and easier to maintain
 - Even if these conventions are not followed, establishing your own and being consistent helps increase productivity and reduce errors
- Each object declares a type with the name XXX_Class where XXX is the filename and the object name
 - Definitions within a class use consistent groupings and order as shown in osk_c_demo.h
- Object variable names should be the same name as the class type but without '_Class'
 - Names within a class should not repeat the class's name or information conveyed by the name so the concatenation of the nested names reads well: OSK_C_DEMO.MsgLog.PlaybkEna
- "Convenience macros" can be used to reference framework objects that need to be passed as the first parameter to osk_c_fw components
 - For example, use "#define INITBL_OBJ (&(OskCDemo.IniTbl))" in function call to INITBL_GetIntConfig(INITBL_OBJ,...)





Configuration Parameter Summary



Configuration	Configuration Scope
osk_c_fw_cfg.h	Defines platform-scoped configuration parameters for the OSK framework. The defaults should accommodate most deployments. The configurations must meet the needs of all apps sharing the framework on a platform.
xxx_mission_cfg.h	Defines mission-scoped application configurations. These configurations apply to every app deployment on different platforms within a single mission.
xxx_platform_cfg.h	Defines platform-scoped application configurations. Analogous to cFS app platform config header in scope, but very few if any parameters should be defined in this header due to app_cfg.h and IniTbl configuration options
app_cfg.h	Every OSK app has a header with this name. Configurations have an application scope that define compile-time parameters that typically don't change across deployments.
Initialization Table	Defines configuration parameters that can be defined at runtime. For example, command pipe name, command pipe depth, and command message identifier.
Table & Commands	The decision whether to define parameters in a table versus as command parameters has multiple factors including how the parameter is used by the app in its processing and on the operational scenarios that may dictate the need for variations in the parameter. This is discussed in discussed in the osk_c_demo description.





App

Initialization Table



Initialization Table Introduction (1 of 2)



Initialization tables are JSON files that define application runtime configurations

 If a configuration parameter impacts a data structure, then it must be defined in a header file at the appropriate scope

Some advantages of using JSON files read during initialization include

- Text files are human and computer friendly
- Separate tables can be defined in the "_defs" directory for each CPU target
- Tools to manipulate the files can easily be written since JSON has wide language support
- In a running system, an app can be restarted with a new table

Some challenges with using JSON files read during initialization include

- JSON doesn't support comments
 - Later slides describe some conventions that help overcome this challenge
- When two apps need the same parameter such as a message ID then it must be defined twice
 - · Basecamp uses a tool to eliminate this issue
 - Each message ID is defined once and the tool populates the initialization tables



Initialization Table Introduction (2 of 2)



File is read in during application initialization

- JSON table filename is defined in app's xxx_platform_cfg.h
- "config" JSON object contains the key-value pair definitions
- Keys are defined in app's app_cfg.h
- Currently supports 3 2bit unsigned integers, floats and strings
- Easy coding steps to define and use an initialization table
 - Implementation details abstracted and hidden from the user

osk_c_demo_ini.json

```
"title": "OSK C Demo initialization file",
"description": [ "Define runtime configurations"]
"config": {
   "APP CFE NAME": "OSK C DEMO",
   "APP PERF ID": 127,
   "CHILD NAME":
                       "OSK C DEMO CHILD",
   "CHILD PERF ID":
                       128,
   "CHILD STACK SIZE": 16384,
   "CHILD PRIORITY":
   "CMD MID":
                     8048,
   "EXECUTE MID":
                     6593,
   "SEND HK MID":
                     6594.
   "HK TLM MID":
                     3952,
   "PLAYBK TLM MID": 3953,
   "CMD PIPE DEPTH": 5,
   "CMD PIPE NAME": "OSK C DEMO CMD",
   "MSGLOG PIPE DEPTH": 5,
   "MSGLOG PIPE NAME": "OSK C DEMO PKT",
   "TBL LOAD FILE": "/cf/osk c demo tbl.json",
   "TBL DUMP FILE": "/cf/osk c demo~.json"
```



Define App Initialization Parameters (1 of 2)



1a. Define configurations in app_cfg.h

```
#define CFG MSGLOG PIPE DEPTH
                                 MSGLOG PIPE DEPTH
#define CFG MSGLOG PIPE NAME
                                 MSGLOG PIPE NAME
#define CFG TBL LOAD FILE
                                 TBL LOAD FILE
#define CFG TBL DUMP FILE
                                 TBL DUMP FILE
#define APP CONFIG(XX) \
   XX(APP CFE NAME, char*) \
   XX(APP PERF ID, uint32) \
   XX(CHILD NAME, char*) \
   XX(CHILD PERF ID, uint32) \
   XX(CHILD STACK SIZE, uint32) \
   XX(CHILD PRIORITY, uint32) \
   XX(CMD MID, uint32) \
   XX(EXECUTE MID, uint32) \
   XX(SEND HK MID, uint32) \
   XX(HK TLM MID, uint32) \
   XX(PLAYBK TLM MID, uint32) \
   XX(CMD PIPE NAME, char*) \
   XX(CMD PIPE DEPTH, uint32)
   XX (MSGLOG PIPE DEPTH, uint32) \
   XX (MSGLOG PIPE NAME, char*) \
   XX(TBL LOAD FILE, char*) \
   XX(TBL DUMP FILE, char*) \
DECLARE ENUM (Config, APP CONFIG)
```

Define macros using the naming CFG_XXX, where XXX is the same name used in the JSON initialization file

Add the XXX definition to APP_CONFIG macro and declare the type: uint32 or char*



Define App Initialization Parameters (2 of 2)



1b. Define the initializations parameter enumerations

```
/*****************/
/** File Global Data **/
/***********************

** Must match DECLARE ENUM() declaration in app_cfg.h
** Defines "static INILIB_CfgEnum IniCfgEnum"

** Defines ENUM(Config, APP_CONFIG)

The user doesn't need to know the details
```

1c. Define IniTbl object in the app's main class

1d. Add the JSON filename to the appropriate "FILELIST' in targets.cmake



Use the App Initialization Table



2a – Construct INITBL in the app's initialization function

```
INITBL Constructor (&OskCDemo.IniTbl, OSK C DEMO INI FILENAME, &IniCfgEnum)
```

2b – Retrieve parameter values using CFG_XXX macro and INITBL's Integer or String get functions

```
CFE_SB_CreatePipe(&OskCDemo.CmdPipe, INITBL_GetIntConfig(INITBL_OBJ, CFG_CMD_PIPE_DEPTH), INITBL_GetStrConfig(INITBL_OBJ, CFG_CMD_PIPE_NAME));
```

Notes

- If a parameter is used in multiple locations create storage for it at the most local scope possible and initialize the storage in the appropriate constructor function. See app_c_demo's performance ID.
- Since message IDs are variables, a switch statement with message ID cases statements. An if-else construct will be needed.





App

Commands





- Standard commands: noop, reset (describe how different than NASA), load, dump tables
- Every app should have a noop
- Think about remote operations and autonomous onboard driven operations
- Command verification. Autonomous and manual. What can be verified when
- Use telemetry state rather than events
- Add a telemetry design section
- Get notes from my cFE slides and system slides



Command Manager Overview



CmdMgr

Command Counters

Constructor()
RegisterFunc()
RegisterAltFunc()
ResetStatus()
DispatchFunc()

- Provides a command registration service and manages dispatching commands
- Performs command length and checksum validations prior to calling the registered command
 - App developers focus on implementing and testing app functionality
- Supports "alternate" command concept that means the command counters are not incremented
 - Useful when onboard commands are sent between apps and incrementing the command counters could confuse ground operation's monitoring
- Does not manage the SB command pipe calls
 - Allows the app to determine whether to poll or pend on the command pipe
 - Keeps CmdMgr's role and responsibilities concise



Using Command Manager



1. Define a CmdMgr object in the app's class structure

```
CMDMGR Class CmdMgr;
```

2. Construct the CmdMgr object in the app's init function

```
CMDMGR Constructor(CMDMGR OBJ);
```

3. Register commands in the app's init function

4. Dispatch commands in the app's SB command pipe processing

```
if (MsgId == OskCDemo.CmdMid) {
    CMDMGR_DispatchFunc(CMDMGR_OBJ, CmdMsgPtr);
}
```

5. Reset CmdMgr in the app's reset command processing

```
CMDMGR ResetStatus(CMDMGR OBJ);
```





App

Telemetry





- . App defines a 'send/request HK packet message ID' and subscribes to receive the message. Typical on app's command pipe
- 2. Add message to scheduler's message table and add a scheduler table entry to send the message. HK packet at some interval.
- 3. Process the packet in the app's main loop. File manager fm_app.c is a good example; FM_ProcessPkt(). Since FM only runs in response to commands, it pends indefinitely on its command pipe, other apps may poll their command pipe.

•

• The HK design pattern is not required and it happens to be common with the open source Command & data handling (C&DH) type apps. Many mission specific apps that run at a particular rate simply send a status telemetry packet at their execution rate. If this is too fast for telemetry then the telemetry output filter table can be used to reduce the telemetry rate.

•





App

Events





• Describe event message strategies

•





App

Tables





- 1. In OpenSatKit and Basecamp, what is the relationship between the table manager object and the cFE table service? Do you even use the cFE table service in OSK and Basecamp? I ask because it seems like the table manager object supports JSON files whereas (as far as I know) the cFE table service only supports binary tables.
- The OSK and Basecamp app frameworks do not use the cFE table services. They provide support for apps to manage JSON tables: load, dump, and parse JSON files. Each app that has a table (they are optional) must define the load/dump commands in their EDS, provide load/dump processing functions, and provide table status in telemetry. Using text tables reduces ground system complexity needs which is helpful for educational purposes. As a side note the cFE can be built without table services. The cFE itself does not use tables and some users didn't want the service to take up space).

lacksquare

- All Basecamp apps have a JSON initialization file. These are not tables but use the framework's JSON parser. The primary reasons for the init files are: Many configuration parameters can be defined at runtime rather than compile time and a text-based initialization configuration file simplified tools for managing configurations. Basecamp has a tool that sets TopicIDs in app init files.
- 1. Also, can the table manager be used on a real spacecraft? Or is it just for educational purposes?
- I know of one CubeSat team (not launched) that is using some Basecamp apps which have JSON init files but no tables. There aren't any Basecamp tests so everything has been verified through fixing bugs as they arise. Table manager and each app's table processing functions would need to be tested before being used in flight. I suspect some error paths in the JSON processing may need beefing up. I haven't had it crash, but errors could be more specific.
- Operational procedures can also minimize risks. At Goddard tables are loaded and tested at FlatSat before they are loaded to the spacecraft. The concept of tables themselves carry risks because their contents can significantly impact the behavior of an app. For example, a value may cause a divide by zero.



Table Manager Overview



TblMgr

Load/Dump Status

Constructor()
RegisterTbl ()

RegisterTblWithDefs()

LoadTblCmd()

DumpTblCmd()

ResetStatus()

GetLastStatus()

- Provides a table registration service and manages table loads and dumps
- Tables are defined in JSON text files
- Tables are parsed using an open-source JSON library
 - In v3.1 FreeRTOS core-JSON parser was added
 - Prior to v3.1 JSMN was used
- osk_c_fw uses adapter objects to interface with the parser
 - json.h interfaces with JSMN
 - cjson interfaces with core-JSON
- osk_c_demo is the first app to use cjson and the other apps with be transitioned in future releases
- A table object must be defined for each table
 - The table object provides table-specific load/dump functionality
 - It defines a local table data buffer for loads



OSK Application JSON Tables



Objectives

- Provide a text-based table service
- Create a consistent application JSON table management operational interface
- Facilitate consistent application designs that abstract complexities, minimize application developer learning curves and simplify maintenance

Rationale

 cFE binary tables require an added layer of ground processing for translating between binary tables and human readable/writable text

OSK C application framework (osk_c_fw) JSON file management

- Utilities for parsing JSON files
- Functional API for retrieving JSON-defined values
- Design is independent of table concept/design

Application object design pattern

 Defines an object-based design for using the framework utilities to manage loading and dumping JSON table files



How to Create a Table



1. Define a TblMgr object in the app's class structure

```
TBLMGR Class TblMgr;
```

2. App Init: Construct the TbIMgr object

```
TBLMGR_Constructor TBLMGR_OBJ, INITBL_GetStrConfig(INITBL_OBJ, CFG_APP_CFE_NAME)););
```

3. App Init: Register app's tables with TbIMgr (these are table object's callback functions)

```
TBLMGR_RegisterTblWithDef(TblMgr, HISTOGRAM_TBL_NAME,

HISTOGRAM_TBL_LoadCmd, HISTOGRAM_TBL_DumpCmd,

INITBL GetStrConfig(IniTbl, CFG_HIST_TBL_LOAD_FILE));
```

4. App Init: Register TbIMgr's Load and Dump commands with CmdMgr

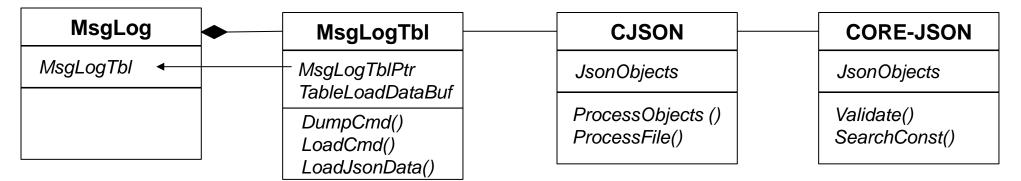
5. Implement the table app object

The following slides use MsgLogTbl as an example to show to create a table object



Table Manager Object Design



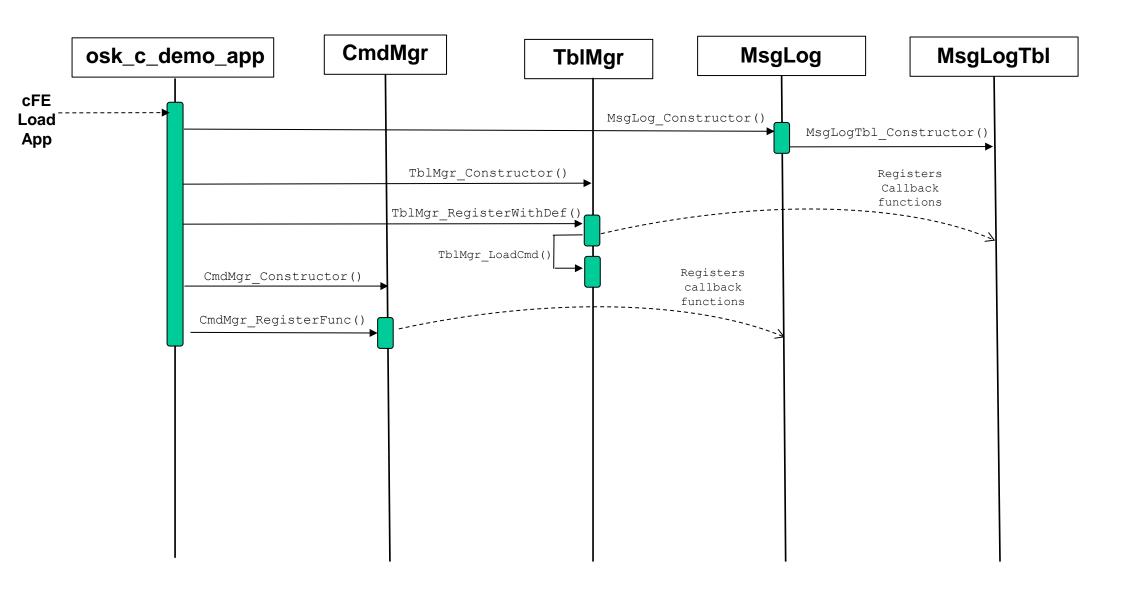


- MsgLog is the parent of MsgLogTbl so it contains an instance of MsgLogTbl
- MsgLogTbl
 - MsgLogTblPtr references MsgLog's instance of MsgLogTbl
 - TableLoadDataBuf stores table load data and its contents are copied to MsgLog's instance if the table load is successful
 - LoadCmd() and DumpCmd() are TblMgr callback functions that control the load/dump processes. They are registered with TblMgr by the app's init function
 - LoadJsondata() is a callback function used by CJSON__ProcessFile() that copied data from the JSON file into TableLoadDataBuf
- CJSON provides a simple API for using CORE-JSON to manage tables
 - CJSON manages the JSON files and CORE-JSON works with character buffers
 - ProcessObjects() loops through the MsgLogTbl's CJSON_Obj array to populate MsgLogTbl's TableLoadDataBuf with the JSON defined values
 - ProcessFile() validates the JSON file and calls the user supplied callback function to coy data into it's table load buffer. LoadJsonData() is the callback for MsgLogTbl.
- CORE-JSON is an open-source parser provided by the FreeRTOS project
 - Validate() validates a JSON structure passed in a character buffer
 - SearchCOnst() searches for a key uses a dot notation for nested JSON objects. See core-json.h for details.



Table Initialization Sequence Diagram

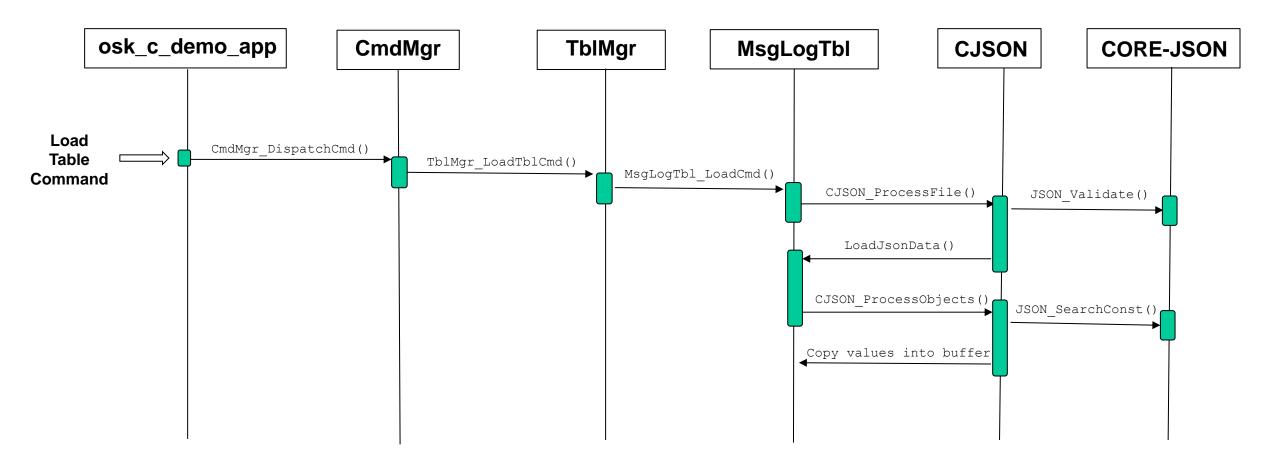






Load Table Sequence Diagram

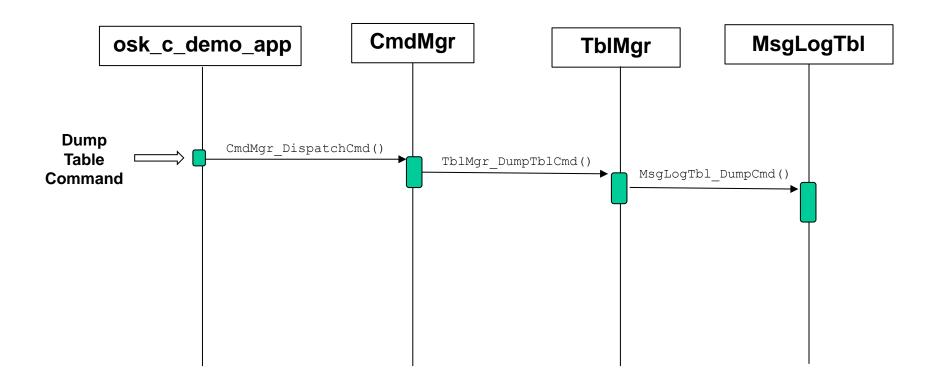






Dump Table Sequence Diagram







MsgLogTbl Highlights



osk_c_demo_tbl.json

```
"app-name": "OSK_C_DEMO",
"tbl-name": "Message Log",
"description": "Define parameters for demo message logger",
"file": {
    "path-base-name": "/cf/msg_",
    "extension": ".txt",
    "entry-cnt": 5
},
"playbk-delay": 3
```

msglogtbl.c's JSON object definitions maps C structure to JSON objects

```
|static CJSON Obj JsonTblObjs[] = {
   /* Table Data Address
                                Table Data Length
                                                            Updated, Data Type, core-json query string, length of query string */
   { TblData.File.PathBaseName, OS MAX PATH LEN,
                                                             FALSE,
                                                                      JSONString, { "file.path-base-name", strlen("file.path-base-name")} },
                                MSGLOGTBL FILE EXT MAX LEN, FALSE,
                                                                      JSONString, { "file.extension",
                                                                                                           strlen("file.extension")}
   { TblData.File.Extension,
    &TblData.File.EntryCnt,
                                                                      JSONNumber, { "file.entry-cnt",
                                                                                                           strlen("file.entry-cnt")}
                                                             FALSE,
                                                                                                                                          },
                                                                      JSONNumber, { "playbk-delay",
                                                                                                           strlen("playbk-delay")}
   { &TblData.PlaybkDelay,
                                                             FALSE,
};
```

MSGLOGTBL_LoadCmd(), the table load callback function, calls

CJSON_ProcessFile(Filename, MsgLogTbl->JsonBuf, MSGLOGTBL_JSON_FILE_MAX_CHAR, LoadJsonData)

LoadJsonData(), the CJSON process file callback, calls

CJSON LoadObjArray(JsonTblObjs, MsgLogTbl->JsonObjCnt, MsgLogTbl->JsonBuf, MsgLogTbl->JsonFileLen)





- Add JSON array example from KIT_SCH or KIT_TO
- Describe KIT_SCH and KIT_TO table load strategy combined with a command interface to load and dump individual array items
- Error handling conventions
 - Do not start the app if errors loading ini file definitions
 - Do start the app if a parameter table fails to load with the idea that the table could be loaded because the app is still functional at least from a basic running state so the parameter table can be loaded.
- EDS table name enumeration convention. Can't parameterize enum in app_c_fw EDS
- Expand on Hello Table design notes





App

Child Tasks



Child Task Manager Overview



Provides a common infrastructure for running contained objects within the context of a child task

- Balances ease of use, complexity, and scope of design problems that can be solved using the framework
- It is not intended to provide a universal solution

Design considerations

- Main app should own the contained object that has functions that will run within a child task
- App object functions running within a child task need to be designed with an awareness of how they're being executed

Provides two mechanism for functions to run within a child task

- 1. Child task main loop pends indefinitely for commands
 - Note main app can send commands to perform child task functions synchronized with its execution
- 2. Child task has an infinite loop that calls a user supplied callback function.
 - It is the callback function's responsibility to periodically suspend execution



Child Manager Functions



ChildMgr

CmdQueue Task Info Cmd & Task Status

Constructor()
RegisterFuncl ()
ResetStatus()
InvokeChildCmd()
PauseTask()
TaskMainCallback()
TaskMainDispatch()

Constructor()

- Creates child task and mutex semaphore for parent-child shared data
- Configures main child task for command dispatch or infinite loop

RegisterFunc()

Registers a command function

ResetStatus()

Sets valid and invalid command counters to zero

InvokeChildCmd()

 The main app registers this function as the command dispatch function for every command that is executed by the child task. It copies the SB message into the child task's command queue and indicates that a command needs to be processed.

PauseTask()

A utility function that can be used by a child task loop to pause these child tasks every
n'th time it is called.

TaskMainCallback()

Child task infinite loop that calls a callback function that was supplied to the constructor

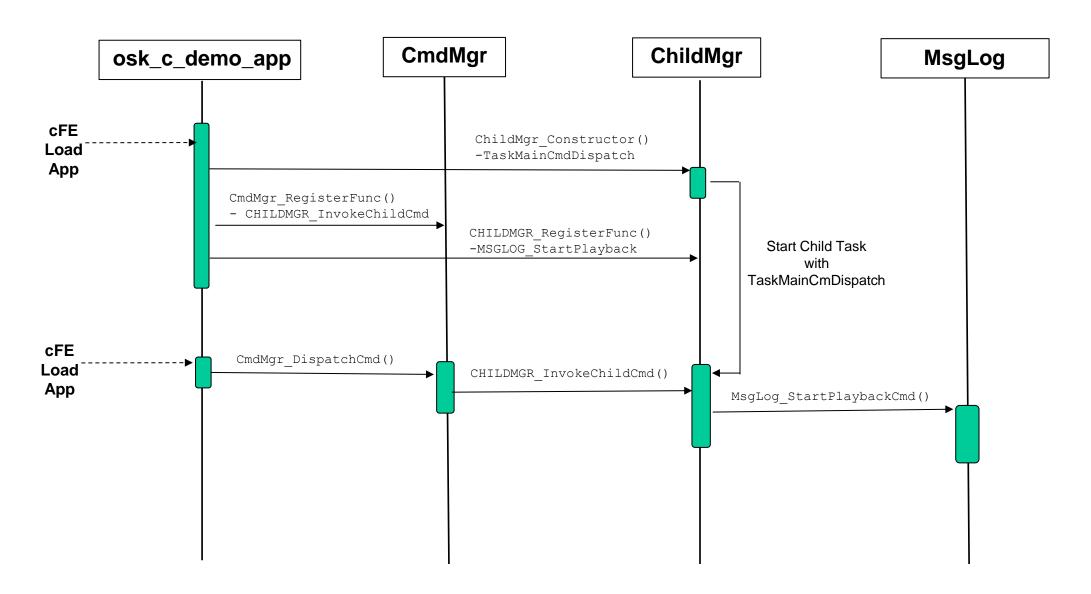
TaskMainDispatch()

Child task infinite loo that pends on the Command Queue semaphore



MsgLog Start Playback Sequence Diagram











TBD

- TBD
- Add ChildMgr framework to app
- Add child task init table parameters
- Constructor child task
- NASA app examples





App

Utilities



State Reporter



TBD – Coming Soon



Utilities Overview



- osk_c_fw utilities are collections of functions that operate on the function parameters
 - In OO parlance they are like class functions as opposed to instance functions
 - There is no object instance with state information
- In v3.1 osk_c_fw contains two utilities: FileUtil (fileutil.h) and PktUtil (pktutil.h)
 - cjson (the backend for table processing) could also be considered a utility, it has state information
- The header files serve as the API
- FileUtil highlights
 - Get file information to determine whether it exists, is a directory, and is closed/open
 - File verification functions for filenames, files for reading, and directories for writing
- PktUtil highlights
 - Packet filtering functions that were created from NASA's Data Storage app





Application Design Patterns



Introduction



- TBD This section will include application design patterns
- The current slides are a collection of notes
- Functional and mechanistic apps/objects characterization. Layers within an object. An interface app's child task perform mechanistic roles



Main Loop Control for Community Apps



Application	Main Loop Control	Control Notes
CF – CFDP	Pend Forever	Scheduler wakeup and HK request
CS – Checksum	Pend Forever	Scheduler wakeup and HK request
DS - Data Storage	Pend Forever	Subscribed message wakeup and HK request
F42 - 42 FSW Controller	Pend with timeout	Pends for sensor data packet from I42
FM – File Manager	Pend Forever	Ground Command, Scheduler HK request
HK - Housekeeping	Pend Forever	Scheduler combo pkt request and HK request
HS – Health & Safety	Pend with timeout	Scheduler HK request, no scheduler control
I42 – 42 Simulator I/F	Synched with 42	Flight equivalent depends upon H/W interfaces
KIT_CI – Command Ingest	Task Delay, Socket	
KIT_SCH – Scheduler	Synched with CFE_TIME	
KIT_TO – Telemetry Output	Pend with timeout	Subscribed message wakeup and HK request
LC – Limit Checker	Pend Forever	Scheduler wakeup and HK request
MD – Memory Dwell	Pend Forever	Scheduler wakeup and HK request
MM – Memory Manager	Pend Forever	Ground Command, Scheduler HK request
SC – Stored Command	Pend Forever	Scheduler wakeup and HK request
TFTP	Task Delay, Socket	Simulation environment (see CF for flight app)



Long Processing Child Tasks





Hardware Device Abstracted to Messages



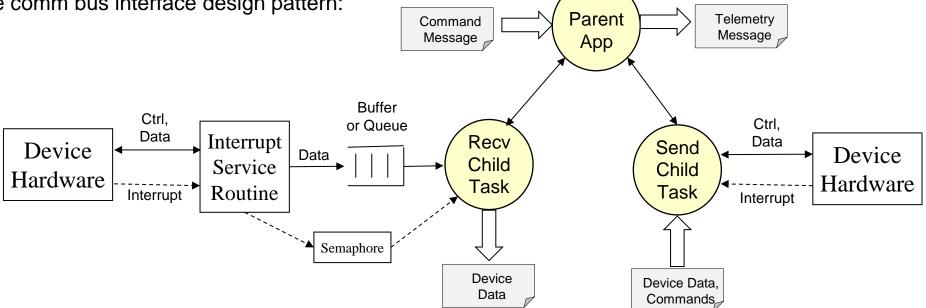
Device abstraction architectural role

- Read device data and publish on message bus
- Receive messages and send to the device

Use a combination of software components to manage control/data

Common design captured in design patterns

Example comm bus interface design pattern:



Not applicable to high data rate devices

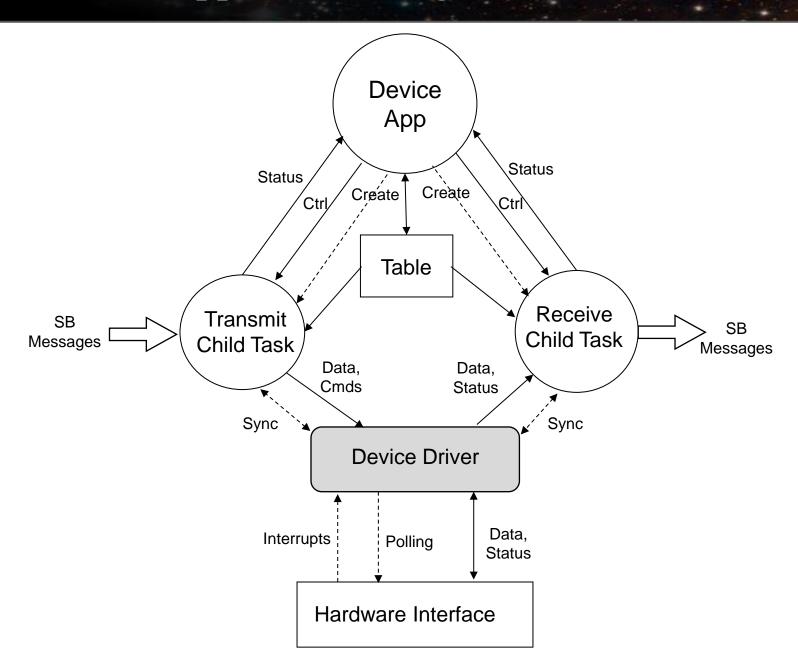
Require optimized point-to-point data transfer mechanisms including hardware acceleration



Comm I/O Application Design Pattern



TBD – Add semaphore Create another design pattern for dedicated hardware interface





Comm I/O Application Design Pattern



The diagram is accurate from a design perspective but it's a little misleading and the implementation is worth noting. The misleading part is that the shared table only contains what is used by both child tasks and there are other configuration tables that are not shared which are not shown in the diagram.

The child tasks do not call the CFE_TBL functions. In the main app's housekeeping cycle it performs table maintenance as follows:

OS_MutSemTake(global_data.TableMutex);

CFE_TBL_ReleaseAddress(handle)

CFE_TBL_Manage(handle)

CFE_TBL_GetAddress(global_data.TablePtr,handle)

OS_MutSemGive(global_data.TableMutex)

The child tasks use the global table pointer to access the table data

OS_MutSemTake(global_data.TableMutex);

... global_data.TablePtr->...

OS_MutSemGive(global_data.TableMutex)



Library Helper Apps



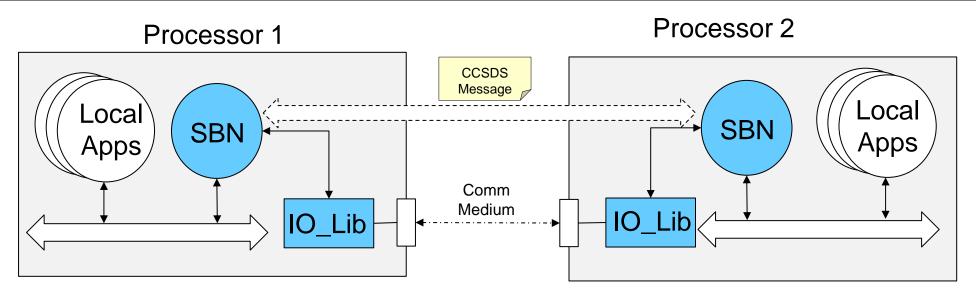
- For libraries that require a ground interface, or some other more complex runtime environment, create a helper app to provide this support
 - Conceptually the cFE's service design uses this approach
 - From an implementation perspective, user libraries/apps must use cfe_es_startup.scr

PL_SIM



Bridging cFS Instances



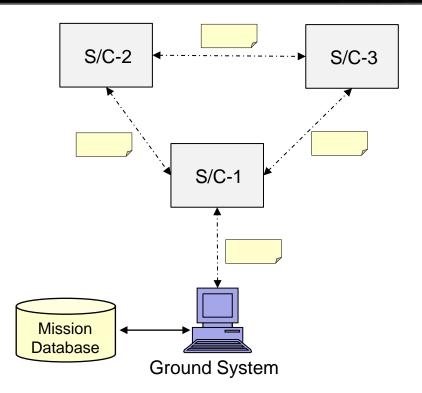


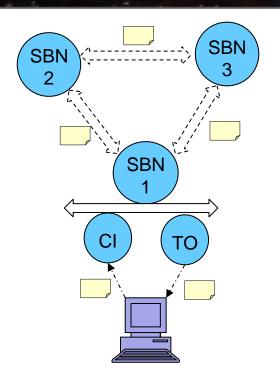
- Software Bus Network (SBN, https://github.com/nasa/SBN)
 - Provides a bridge over Ethernet using UDP or TCP
- The current SBN design does <u>not</u> include an IO Lib as shown
 - Command Ingest (https://github.com/nasa/CFS_IO_LIB) and Telemetry Output (https://github.com/nasa/CFS_IO_LIB) that can be used as a reference design
- Constellations using RF-based Inter-Spacecraft Links (ISL) will require a custom design
- Messages byte ordering must also be taken into account
 - ToDo: Reference Systems Training Slides



Example Cluster







- Cluster of three spacecraft with S/C-1 provisioned for ground communications
- SBN used to virtualize the SB across ISLs
- Toolchains should manage message IDs/definitions and autogenerate FSW and ground code/artifacts to simplify system integration and deployment





OSK_C_DEMO Design



OSK_C_DEMO Introduction



- OSK_C_DEMO provides a non-trivial example app whose design is based on the OpenSatKit (OSK) C application framework OSK_C_FW.
- designed using demonstrates many of the OSK_C_FUpon command start logging the primary header of the command-specified message ID
 - The header is written as hexadecimal text
 - Logging stops when a table-defined number of entries have been written or when the user issues a command to stop logging
- Upon command playback in telemetry the contents of the message log file
 - One header is contained in each playback telemetry message
 - A table-defined value specifies the delay between telemetry messages
 - The playback loops through the message log file until a stop playback or start new log command is received



Design Goals

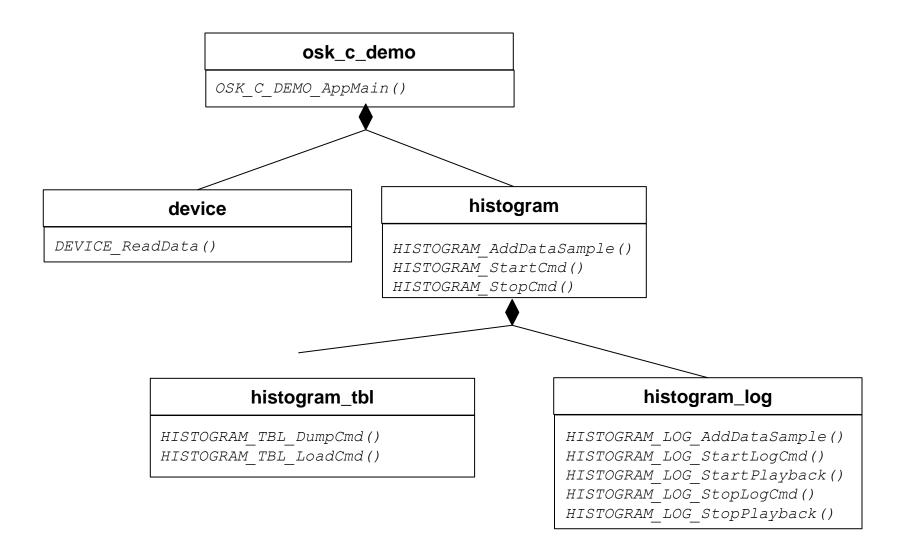


- Like a payload management app (popular custom mission app) without the need for simulation
- Complement command driven FM app design
- Utilize osk_c_fw child's option not used by FileManager
- Different telemetry design then FM
- Options for demo status, break into diag
- Explain why want command counters & reset status so the FW provides value
- EDS versus fw object based design



Demo App Design







OSK_C_DEMO Table



osk_c_demo.json

```
"app-name": "OSK_C_DEMO",
"tbl-name": "Message Log",
"description": "Define parameters for demo message logger",
"file": {
    "path-base-name": "/cf/msg_",
    "extension": ".txt",
    "entry-cnt": 5
},
"playbk-delay": 5
```

- Message log file name created by concatenating "path-base-filename", command-specified message ID, and "extension"
 - e.g. Sending the OSK_C_DEMO start log command ith a parameter of 0x0801 (cFE EVS housekeeping telemetry message) results in a log filename of "msg 0801.txt"
- "entry-cnt" defines maximum number of message log file entries
- "playbk-delay" defines number of OSK_C_DEMO execution cycles between playback telemetry messages



OSK_C_DEMO Ops Screen



Message Log in Progress



Log File Playback in Progress

OSK_C_DEMO DEMO_OPS_SCREEN									
OSK C Demo									
Commands									
No Op	Reset	Load Tbl	Du	mp Tbl					
Start Log	Stop Log	Start PlayBk	Stop	Stop PlayBk					
Housekeeping Status									
Cmd Cnt	3 Cmd Err	0							
Child Cmd Cnt	3 Child Cmd E	rr 0							
Log Ena	FALSE Log Count	5	Playbk Ena	TRUE					
Filename	/cf/msg_0801.txt Display								
Message Log File Playback									
Entry	1								
Pri Header	0801 C026 0095								
Flight Event Messages									
Playback file /cf/msg_0801.txt started with a 5 cycle delay between updates									

- cFE event service housekeeping message (ID = 0x0801) logged
- A child task performs logging and playback
 - "Display" button transfers log file to ground and displays it in a text window





Refactoring NASA's File Manager App



File Manager Refactor Overview



- This section presents the results of refactoring NASA's File Manager (FM) app to use osk_c_fw
- Motivations for performing this exercise
 - The initial effort started when OSK's cFE was updated and the latest NASA FM was not compatible with the latest cFE, so I performed local FM updates. As I performed the updates, I starting seeing how the app could benefit from the osk_c_fw that I had been using for OSK apps.
 - In general, I've been looking at all cFS community apps with an eye for how to make them more amenable to an app store concept. At the time of the refactor, FM had 32 compile-time configuration parameters! Configuration parameters add to an app's ease of adoption, so I wanted to assess what needs to be a configuration parameter and when does it need to be defined, compile-time or runtime?
 - Using an app like FM that has long successful history would help valid the osk_c_fw architecture if the refactoring is successful.
- osk_c_fw may be too much of a 'baby step' for the app store concept
 - This refactor keeps apps in the C programming language domain which may not be a big enough step forward
 - I hope it is still helpful to the community because it does show benefits of an object-based approach in C
- Comments on the original NASA FM design are not intended to be critical, but instructional
 - The NASA app design has a long history rooted in extremely constrained flight environments that evolved from procedural programming design practices
 - Refactoring a piece of software has the benefit of seeing the complete picture so patterns and optimizations can be discovered regardless of the technology being used



File Manager Refactor Approach



- This section does not document every aspects of the refactor
 - Keep this section relatively short
 - The source code can be analyzed once the basic design structures are described
- The original FM's design is shown with a brief description of how data and functionality was decomposed and allocated to different files
- The file copy and move commands are analyzed in detail to show how the original vs the refactored code implement the functions
- Some general observations are made with a summary of results



File Manager Design



FM Global Data

App Cmd Counters Child Cmd Counters Cmd Queue Mgmt Data

> Free Space Telemetry Packet

File Info Telemetry Packet

Open Files
Telemetry Packet

Housekeeping Telemetry Packet

Child Cmd Queue

 $fm_defs.h$

Status

fm_events.h

Event Msg IDs

fm_tbl

AcquirePtr() ReleasePtr() Validate() fm_app

Global Data

fm_child

Task, Process, Loop CopyFile

MoveFile

RenameFile DeleteFile

DeleteAllFiles

DecompressFile

ConcatFile

FileInfo

CreateDir

DeleteDir

DirListFile

DirListPkt

SetPermissions

DirListFile

SizeTimeMode

SleepStat

fm_cmd

Noop ResetCounters

CopyFile MoveFile

RenameFile

DeleteFile

DeleteAllFiles

DecempressFile

ConcatFiles

GetFileInfo

GetOenFiles

CreateDir

DeleteDir

GetDirListFile

GetDirListPkt

OCIDII LISII N

GetFreeSpace

SetTabletate

SetPermissions 5 4 1

fm cmd utils

IsValidCmdPktLength VerifyOverwirte

GetOpenFilesData GetFilenameState

GetFilenameState VerifyNameValid

VerifyFileClosed

VerifyFileExists

VerifyFileNoExist

VerifyFileNotOpen

VerifyDirExists

VerifyDirNoExist

VerifyChildTask

InvokeChildTask

AppendPathSep

Cmd Function Codes

fm_msg.h

Cmd Structures

TIm Structures

File Records





- The original cFS application designs are procedural
- Functions and data defined separate files and dictate program structure

File

- Copy
- Move
- Rename
- Delete
- Delete Internal
- Delete All
- Decompress
- Concatenate
- · File Info
- · List open files
- Set permissions

Directory

- Create
- Remove
- Delete
- Send Listing
- Write Listing

Freespace Table

- Get Free Space
- Set Entry state



File Copy



```
boolean FM CopyFileCmd(CFE SB MsgPtr t MessagePtr) {
   FM CopyFileCmd t *CmdPtr = (FM CopyFileCmd t *) MessagePtr;
   FM ChildQueueEntry t *CmdArgs;
   char *CmdText = "Copy File";
   boolean CommandResult;
   /* Verify command packet length */
   CommandResult = FM IsValidCmdPktLength (MessagePtr, sizeof (FM CopyFileCmd t), FM COPY PKT ERR EID, CmdText);
   /* Verify that overwrite argument is valid */
   if (CommandResult == TRUE) {
      CommandResult = FM VerifyOverwrite(CmdPtr->Overwrite, FM COPY OVR ERR EID, CmdText);
   /* Verify that source file exists and is not a directory */
   if (CommandResult == TRUE)
      CommandResult = FM VerifyFileExists(CmdPtr->Source, sizeof(CmdPtr->Source), FM COPY SRC ERR EID, CmdText);
   /* Verify target filename per the overwrite argument */
   if (CommandResult == TRUE) {
      if (CmdPtr->Overwrite == 0) {
          CommandResult = FM VerifyFileNoExist(CmdPtr->Target, sizeof(CmdPtr->Target), FM COPY TGT ERR EID, CmdText);
      else {
          CommandResult = FM VerifyFileNotOpen(CmdPtr->Target, sizeof(CmdPtr->Target), FM COPY TGT ERR EID, CmdText);
   /* Check for lower priority child task availability */
   if (CommandResult == TRUE) {
      CommandResult = FM VerifyChildTask(FM COPY CHILD ERR EID, CmdText);
   /* Prepare command for child task execution */
   if (CommandResult == TRUE)
      CmdArqs = &FM GlobalData.ChildQueue[FM GlobalData.ChildWriteIndex];
      /* Set handshake queue command args */
      CmdArgs->CommandCode = FM COPY CC;
      strcpy(CmdArgs->Source1, CmdPtr->Source);
      strcpy(CmdArgs->Target, CmdPtr->Target);
      /* Invoke lower priority child task */
      FM InvokeChildTask();
```



File Move

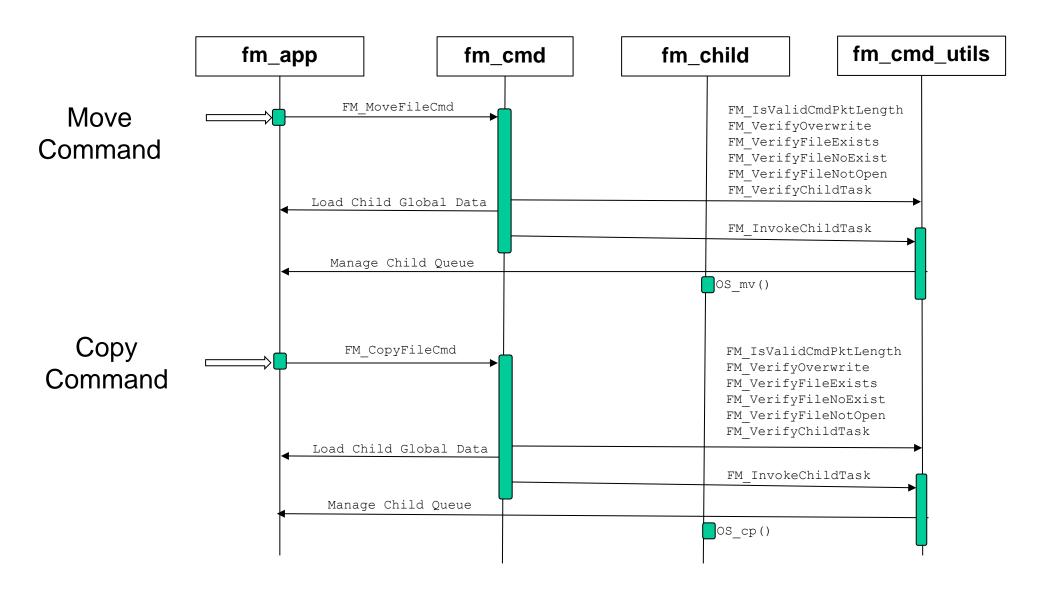


```
boolean FM MoveFileCmd(CFE SB MsqPtr t MessagePtr) { FM MoveFileCmd t *CmdPtr = (FM MoveFileCmd t *) MessagePtr;
FM ChildQueueEntry t *CmdArgs; char *CmdText = "Move File"; boolean CommandResult;
                                                                              /* Verify command packet
FM MOVE PKT ERR EID, CmdText); /* Verify that overwrite argument is valid */ if (CommandResult == TRUE)
CommandResult = FM VerifyOverwrite(CmdPtr->Overwrite,
                                                                                   FM MOVE OVR ERR EID,
           /* Verify that source file exists and not a directory */ if (CommandResult == TRUE) {
CommandResult = FM VerifyFileExists(CmdPtr->Source, sizeof(CmdPtr->Source),
FM MOVE SRC ERR EID, CmdText); /* Verify target filename per the overwrite argument */ if (CommandResult ==
             if (CmdPtr->Overwrite == 0)
                                                         CommandResult = FM VerifyFileNoExist(CmdPtr->Target,
                                         {
                                                              FM MOVE TGT ERR EID, CmdText);
sizeof(CmdPtr->Target),
                     CommandResult = FM VerifyFileNotOpen(CmdPtr->Target, sizeof(CmdPtr->Target),
else
     {
                            } /* Check for lower priority child task availability */
FM MOVE TGT ERR EID, CmdText);
(CommandResult == TRUE) { CommandResult = FM VerifyChildTask(FM MOVE CHILD ERR EID, CmdText); } /* Prepare
command for child task execution */    if (CommandResult == TRUE) {
                                                                   CmdArgs =
&FM GlobalData.ChildQueue[FM GlobalData.ChildWriteIndex];
                                                        /* Set handshake queue command args */
                                                                                                CmdArgs-
                            strcpy(CmdArgs->Source1, CmdPtr->Source); strcpy(CmdArgs->Target, CmdPtr-
>CommandCode = FM MOVE CC;
              /* Invoke lower priority child task */ FM InvokeChildTask(); } return(CommandResult);} /*
>Target);
End of FM MoveFileCmd() */
```



Original File Manager Sequence Diagram







Refactored File Manager Design





OskFrameworkObjs HkPkt

AppMain()
NoopCmd()

ResetAppCmd()

Dir

ListPkt

Create()

Delete()

DeleteAll()

SendListPkt()

WriteListFile()

File

InfoPkt

Concatenate()

Copy()

Decompress()

Delete()

Move()

Rename()

SendInfoPkt()

SetPermissions()

FileSys

OpenFilesPkt TblPkt

ManageTbl()

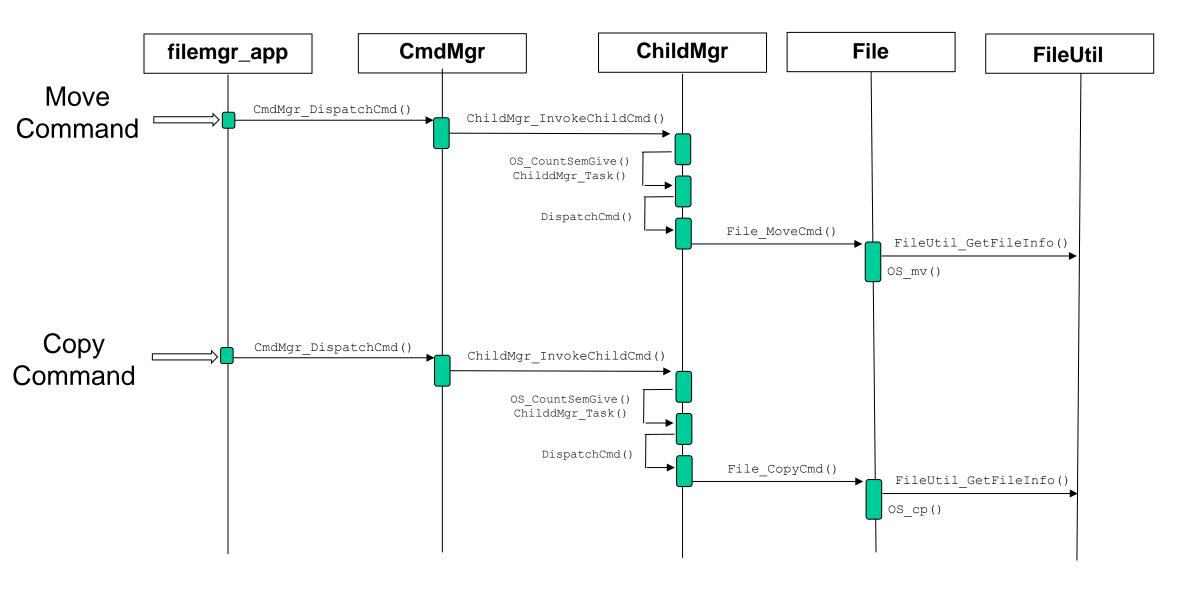
SendOpenFilesPkt() SendTblPkt

SetTblState()



Refactored File Manager Sequence Diagram





Page 129



Refactor Observations and Results



- TBD
- Objects suitable for multiple apps migrate to the framework or to a shared library
 - FileUtils
- OO 'smells'

App	C Src Files	LOC	Platform Compile- Cfg	Init Runtime-Cfg	Notes
FM	20	3038	32	n/a	
FileMgr	12	1681	6	25	App name and table name repeated because binary table requires them during compilation





- Telemetry Design
 - HK vs
- Ops versus design nomenclature
 - Design command names vs EDS operational names



Testing



Introduction



• TBD – This section will cover unit, functional, and continuous integration





Appendix A Design Notation



Intra-App Sequence Diagram Diagram



Intra-app sequence diagrams are typically not used by the cFS app but are used by OSK apps documents. The top elements represent objects and the communication between objects is via calls to an object's public methods

