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Some ideas for our Crescendo shooter

[crescendo_shooter.java](#)

```
1 // There's been a lot of discussion on Chief Delphi about best practices for Command-based program
2 // Here is one thread that I found particularly interesting:
3 // https://www.chiefdelphi.com/t/command-based-best-practices-for-2025-community-feedback/465602?u
4 // I have been thinking about how we could use that pattern in our codebase.
5 //
6 // I chose to take as an example the shooter, which has three motors, two sensors, and multiple st
7 // Controlling the shooter has been a bit of a challenge for us, so I thought it would be a good e
8 //
9 // Read the thread linked above for more context, but what I tried to do here is:
10 // - Subsystems expose their state only as Triggers.
11 // - Subsystems expose their controls only as Command factories.
12 // - Commands have a single purpose and a single subsystem.
13 // - Triggers define when commands should run.
14 // - Avoid tight coupling between subsystems.
15 // - A simple system that works equally well in auto and teleop.
16 // - Use Sendable to expose the state of the robot to the dashboard.
17 // - Interfaces are described in terms of problem space and intention, not hardware.
18 // - We don't incur additional costs or inconsistency for the sake of flexibility.
19 //
20 // This is just a collection of code fragments, not a complete implementation,
21 // but I hope it gives you an idea of what I'm thinking.
22
23 // General background on our Crescendo in-season shooter:
24 // - We have a robot with a combined intake/shooter mechanism.
25 // - The shooter has two manipulators (sets of rollers), one set at each end.
26 // - Rollers can be run in either direction to intake, feed, or shoot the game piece.
27 // - The shooter intakes from the front side only, but can shoot in either direction.
28 // - The shooter has a pivot that can be used for both floor intake and aiming.
29 // - The shooter has two sensors, one at each end, that detect the presence
30 //   of a game piece within the mechanism.
31 // - When holding a game piece and shooting, one manipulator acts as a holder/feeder,
32 //   and the other acts as a shooter. The manipulators (and beam-break sensors) swap
33 //   roles depending on the shooting direction.
34
35
36 // -----
37 // Shooter.java
```

```

38 // -----
39
40 // This subsystem provides access to the two beam-break sensors.
41 // It also controls the mode of the shooter, which can be idle, intaking, or shooting.
42 // The shooter can also be set to run forwards or backwards.
43 // The shooter also has emergent internal state, such as whether it has a game piece.
44 // These emergent states are deliberately separate from the mode, which indicates intention.
45 // This subsystem controls no motors.
46
47 import java.util.function.BooleanSupplier;
48
49 class Shooter extends SubsystemBase {
50     // ----
51     // MODE
52     // ----
53
54     private enum ShooterMode {
55         IDLE, // empty or holding, possibly feeding, revving, or aiming
56         INTAKING,
57         SHOOTING
58         // TODO: Add AMP, EJECTING
59     }
60
61     private ShooterMode m_mode = ShooterMode.IDLE;
62
63     // Add triggers for each state; this is the only read access to the mode outside the subsystem
64     public final Trigger isIdle = new Trigger(() -> m_mode == ShooterMode.IDLE);
65     public final Trigger isIntaking = new Trigger(() -> m_mode == ShooterMode.INTAKING);
66     public final Trigger isShooting = new Trigger(() -> m_mode == ShooterMode.SHOOTING);
67
68     // This is the internal command factory for mode commands
69     private Command setState(ShooterMode mode) {
70         return runOnce(() -> {
71             m_mode = mode;
72         }).setName(mode.toString());
73     }
74
75     // Public command factories for each state; this is the only write access to the mode outside
76     public Command stop() { return setState(ShooterMode.IDLE); }
77     public Command startIntaking() { return setState(ShooterMode.INTAKING); }
78     public Command startShooting() { return setState(ShooterMode.SHOOTING); }
79
80     // -----
81     // DIRECTION
82     // -----
83
84     private enum ShooterDirection {
85         FORWARDS,
86         BACKWARDS

```

```
87     }
88
89     private ShooterDirection m_direction = ShooterDirection.FORWARDS;
90     // Add a trigger for one direction; this is the only read access to the direction outside the
91     // This trigger is used to determine which manipulator is the shooter and which is the holder/
92     // We don't need isBackwards because we can just negate isForwards; it's boolean.
93     public final Trigger isForwards = new Trigger(() -> m_direction == ShooterDirection.FORWARDS);
94
95     // This is the internal command factory for direction commands
96     private Command setDirection(ShooterDirection direction) {
97         return runOnce(() -> {
98             m_direction = direction;
99         }).setName(direction.toString());
100     }
101
102     // Public command factories for each direction and toggling; this is the only write access to
103
104     public Command setForwards() {
105         return setDirection(ShooterDirection.FORWARDS);
106     }
107
108     public Command setBackwards() {
109         return setDirection(ShooterDirection.BACKWARDS);
110     }
111
112     public Command toggleDirection() {
113         return Commands.either(
114             setDirection(ShooterDirection.BACKWARDS),
115             setDirection(ShooterDirection.FORWARDS),
116             isForwards).withName("Toggle Direction");
117     }
118
119     // -----
120     // SENSORS
121     // -----
122
123     // Wrap our beam-break sensors, explaining what they mean
124
125     // These variables cache the sensor values so that we can use them in triggers
126     // without having to call the sensor multiple times,
127     // and ensuring we get the same value each time within an iteration.
128     private boolean m_gamePieceInFront = false;
129     private boolean m_gamePieceInBack = false;
130
131     @Override
132     public void periodic() {
133         // Cache inputs here
134         m_gamePieceInFront = !m_frontSensor.get();
135         m_gamePieceInBack = !m_backSensor.get();
```

```
136     }
137
138     // This trigger will be true when there is a game piece anywhere in the shooter,
139     // and stay true for a short time after no game piece is detected.
140     // This delay allows the game piece to fully leave the shooter before we power down and stop a
141     public final Trigger hasGamePiece = new Trigger(() -> m_gamePieceInBack || m_gamePieceInFront)
142         .debounce(k_hasGamePieceDelay, Debouncer.DebounceType.kFalling);
143
144     // Combine sensors with direction to make triggers beased on their current role
145
146     public final Trigger gamePieceInHolder = new Trigger(
147         () -> (isForwards.getAsBoolean() ? m_gamePieceInBack : m_gamePieceInFront));
148
149     public final Trigger gamePieceInShooter = new Trigger(
150         () -> (isForwards.getAsBoolean() ? m_gamePieceInFront : m_gamePieceInBack));
151
152     // -----
153     // COMPLEX TRIGGERS
154     // -----
155
156     // Do we need to move the game piece away from the shooter?
157     // Only true when we're idle (not trying to shoot or intake),
158     // and the game piece is in the shooter.
159     public final Trigger shouldFeed = isIdle.and(gamePieceInShooter);
160
161     // Should we be aiming the pivot?
162     // Only true when we're idle or shooting, and we have a game piece.
163     public final Trigger shouldAim = isIdle.or(isShooting).and(hasGamePiece);
164
165     // Are we clear to shoot by spinning up the holder?
166     // Only true when we're shooting, and we have a game piece
167     // This trigger and shouldFeed cannot be true at the same time.
168     public final Trigger shouldRevHolder = isShooting.and(hasGamePiece)
169
170     // Should we spin up the shooter?
171     //
172     // When we're idle, have a game piece, but aren't feeding it
173     // or in the same circumstances when want to rev the holder.
174     // This trigger and shouldFeed cannot be true at the same time.
175     public final Trigger shouldRevShooter =
176         isIdle.and(hasGamePiece).and(shouldFeed.negate())
177         .or(shouldRevHolder);
178
179     @Override
180     public void initSendable(SendableBuilder builder) {
181         super.initSendable(builder);
182         builder.addStringProperty("State", m_mode::toString, null);
183         builder.addStringProperty("Direction", m_direction::toString, null);
184         builder.addBooleanProperty("Game Piece in Back?", () -> m_gamePieceInBack, null);
```

```
185     builder.addBooleanProperty("Game Piece in Front?", () -> m_gamePieceInFront, null);
186     builder.addBooleanProperty("Has Game Piece?", hasGamePiece, null);
187     builder.addBooleanProperty("Game Piece in Holder?", gamePieceInHolder, null);
188     builder.addBooleanProperty("Game Piece in Shooter?", gamePieceInShooter, null);
189     builder.addBooleanProperty("Should Feed?", shouldFeed, null);
190     builder.addBooleanProperty("Should Aim?", shouldAim, null);
191     builder.addBooleanProperty("Should Rev Shooter?", shouldRevShooter, null);
192     builder.addBooleanProperty("Should Rev Holder?", shouldRevHolder, null);
193 }
194 }
195
196 // -----
197 // Manipulator.java
198 // -----
199
200 // Controls a pair of rollers at one end of the shooting mechanism.
201 // We have two instances of this subsystem, one for each end.
202 // The manipulator can be set to intake, feed, or shoot the game piece.
203
204 class Manipulator extends SubsystemBase {
205     // Constants for the manipulator
206     private enum ManipulatorState {
207         STOPPED(0, false),
208         INTAKING(k_intakeVelocity, false),
209         SHOOTING(k_shootingVelocity, true),
210         FEEDING(k_feedVelocity, true);
211
212     private final double m_velocity;
213     private final boolean m_reverses;
214
215     ManipulatorState(double velocity, boolean reverses) {
216         m_velocity = velocity;
217         m_reverses = reverses;
218     }
219
220     public double velocity(BooleanSupplier forwards) {
221         if (m_reverses) {
222             return forwards.getAsBoolean() ? -m_velocity : m_velocity;
223         } else {
224             return m_velocity;
225         }
226     }
227 }
228
229 // Internal command factory for setting the velocity
230 private Command setVelocity(ManipulatorState state) {
231     return run(() -> {
232         m_setpoint = state.velocity(m_forwards);
233         // Use on-controller PID to control the velocity here
```

```
234         m_pid.setReference(m_setpoint);
235     }).setName(state.name());
236 }
237
238 // Public command factories for each velocity
239 // These are the only write access to the velocity outside the subsystem
240 public Command stop() { return setVelocity(ManipulatorState.STOPPED); }
241 public Command setIntaking() { return setVelocity(ManipulatorState.INTAKING); }
242 public Command setShooting() { return setVelocity(ManipulatorState.SHOOTING); }
243 public Command setFeeding() { return setVelocity(ManipulatorState.FEEDING); }
244
245 // Is the manipulator near the desired speed?
246 private boolean isReady() {
247     return MathUtil.isNear(m_velocity, m_setpoint, k_tolerance);
248 }
249
250 // Add a trigger for isReady;
251 // Debounce it so that it doesn't flicker when the game piece hits the rollers
252 // This is the only read access to the velocity outside the subsystem.
253 // TODO: Consider caching.
254 public final Trigger isReady = new Trigger(this::isReady).debounce(k_isReadyDelay, Debouncer.D
255
256 @Override
257 public void initSendable(SendableBuilder builder) {
258     super.initSendable(builder);
259     builder.addDoubleProperty("Velocity (m/s)", () -> m_velocity, null);
260     builder.addDoubleProperty("Setpoint (m/s)", () -> m_setpoint, null);
261     builder.addBooleanProperty("Is Ready?", isReady, null);
262 }
263
264 private final BooleanSupplier m_forwards;
265 private double m_velocity = 0;
266
267 // Constructor is configured based on whether this is the front or back manipulator
268 // All other details are determined internally.
269 Manipulator(boolean isFront, BooleanSupplier forwards) {
270     m_forwards = forwards;
271     // Set up motors, encoders, and PID controllers here
272     setName(isFront ? "Front Manipulator" : "Back Manipulator");
273     // No longer need to know which manipulator we are.
274 }
275
276 @Override
277 public void periodic() {
278     // Cache inputs here
279     m_velocity = m_encoder.getVelocity();
280 }
281 }
282
```

```

283 // -----
284 // Pivot.java
285 // -----
286
287 // The pivot subsystem controls the angle of the shooter.
288 // The pivot can be set to various angles, such as intaking, home, or aiming.
289
290 class Pivot extends SubsystemBase {
291     private final DoubleSupplier m_distance;
292     private final BooleanSupplier m_forwards;
293
294     public Pivot(DoubleSupplier distance, BooleanSupplier forwards) {
295         m_distance = distance;
296         m_forwards = forwards;
297         // Set up motors, encoders, and PID controllers here
298     }
299
300     // Internal command factory for setting the angle (in radians)
301     private Command setAngle(DoubleSupplier angle) {
302         return run(() -> {
303             m_setpoint = angle.getAsDouble();
304             // Use m_setpoint to control the pivot angle here
305             m_feedback = m_feedbackController.calculate(m_position, m_setpoint);
306             m_feedforward = m_feedforwardController.calculate(m_position, m_setpoint);
307             m_power = MathUtil.clamp(feedforward + feedback, -1.0, 1.0);
308             m_motor.setPower(m_power);
309         });
310     }
311
312     // Public command factories for each angle; these are the only write access to the angle outsi
313
314     // Bring the front manipulator close to the floor
315     public Command setIntaking() {
316         return setAngle(() -> k_intakeAngle).withName("Intaking");
317     }
318
319     // Go to the home (fully retracted) position
320     public Command setHome() {
321         return setAngle(() -> k_homeAngle).withName("Home");
322     }
323
324     // Set the pivot angle based on the distance to the target and the shooting direction
325     // Aiming is done using a lookup table.
326     // The lookup table is different for forwards and backwards shooting.
327     public Command setAiming() {
328         return setAngle(() -> {
329             boolean forwards = m_forwards.getAsBoolean();
330             InterpolatingDoubleTreeMap angles = forwards ? m_forwardsAngles : m_backwardsAngles;
331             double distance = m_distance.getAsDouble(); // distance to speaker in metres

```

```
332         double angle = angles.get(distance);
333         return angle;
334     }).withName("Aiming");
335 }
336
337 // Is the pivot near the desired angle and stationary?
338 private boolean isReady() {
339     return MathUtil.isNear(m_position, m_setpoint, k_positionTolerance)
340         && MathUtil.isNear(m_velocity, 0, k_velocityTolerance);
341 }
342
343 // Add a trigger for isReady; debounce it so that it doesn't flicker while we're shooting
344 // This is the only read access to the angle and angular velocity outside the subsystem.
345 // TODO: Consider caching.
346 public final Trigger isReady = new Trigger(this::isReady).debounce(k_isReadyDelay, Debouncer.D
347
348 @Override
349 public void periodic() {
350     // Cache inputs here
351     m_position = m_encoder.getPosition();
352     m_velocity = m_encoder.getVelocity();
353 }
354
355 @Override
356 public void initSendable(SendableBuilder builder) {
357     super.initSendable(builder);
358     builder.addDoubleProperty("Setpoint (degrees)",
359         () -> Math.toDegrees(m_setpoint), null);
360     builder.addDoubleProperty("Angle (degrees)",
361         () -> Math.toDegrees(m_position), null);
362     builder.addDoubleProperty("Angular Velocity (degrees/s)",
363         () -> Math.toDegrees(m_velocity), null);
364     builder.addDoubleProperty("Feedforward", () -> m_feedforward, null);
365     builder.addDoubleProperty("Feedback", () -> m_feedback, null);
366     builder.addDoubleProperty("Power", () -> m_power, null);
367     builder.addBooleanProperty("Is Ready?", isReady, null);
368     addChild(m_feedbackController);
369 }
370 }
371
372 // -----
373 // RobotContainer.java
374 // -----
375
376 // The RobotContainer is the glue that holds everything together.
377 // It is responsible for wiring up the subsystems, triggers, and commands.
378 // It also exposes the state of the robot to the dashboard.
379 // In particular, it is responsible for tying together information from multiple subsystems
380 // and for commanding subsystems to act in concert.
```



```
381 // In this way, the subsystems are not tightly coupled to each other, and commands are simple.
382
383 public class RobotContainer implements Sendable {
384     // How far are we from the target speaker?
385     private double getSpeakerDistance() {
386         Pose2d speaker = m_aprilTags.getTagPose(m_alliance == Alliance.RED ? 4 : 7).toPose2d();
387         return m_poseEstimator.getEstimatedPosition().getTranslation().getDistance(speaker.getTran
388     }
389
390     // How far is the speaker from the robot?
391     // Cache answer in a variable for consistency and efficiency.
392     private double m_speakerDistance = 0; // metres
393     private boolean m_forwards = true;
394
395     // Debounce the falling edge to avoid flickering when we're on the edge of the range
396     // and to allow us to complete the shot before we stop shooting.
397     // TODO: Does the range depend on whether we're shooting forwards or backwards?
398     private final Trigger isInShootingRange =
399         newTrigger(() -> (m_speakerDistance < k_shootingRange))
400         .debounce(k_isInShootingRangeDelay, Debouncer.DebounceType.kFalling);
401
402     // Subsystems have no coupling with each other; they are only coupled to the RobotContainer
403     private final Manipulator m_frontManipulator = new Manipulator(true, ()->m_forwards);
404     private final Manipulator m_backManipulator = new Manipulator(false, ()->m_forwards);
405     private final Pivot m_pivot = new Pivot(()->m_speakerDistance, ()->m_forwards);
406     private final Shooter m_shooter = new Shooter();
407
408     // Cache the manipulators based on the shooting direction
409     private Manipulator m_shooterManipulator = m_frontManipulator;
410     private Manipulator m_holderManipulator = m_backManipulator;
411
412     // Called from Robot.robotPeriodic before CommandScheduler.run()
413     public void updateInputCaches() {
414         m_speakerDistance = getSpeakerDistance();
415         m_isForwards = m_shooter.isForwards.getAsBoolean();
416         m_shooterManipulator = m_isForwards ? m_frontManipulator : m_backManipulator;
417         m_holderManipulator = m_isForwards ? m_backManipulator : m_frontManipulator;
418     }
419
420     // Bind buttons to commands here; teleop only
421     private void configureButtonBindings() {
422         // This button controls whether we are intaking
423         // We may stop early if we detect a game piece
424         // Debounce to stop flickering if game controller is noisy
425         intake_button.debounce(k_buttonDebounce)
426             .whileTrue(m_shooter.startIntaking()
427                 .finallyDo(m_shooter.stop()));
428
429         // This button controls whether we are shooting
```

```
430 // Note that releasing the button will not stop the shooter
431 // Instead we keep shooting until the game piece is out
432 // TODO: Consider adding a timeout to stop shooting if we jam.
433 shooting_button.onTrue(m_shooter.startShooting());
434
435 // This button controls the shooting direction, toggling between forwards and backwards
436 // TODO: Consider disabling this button while shooting
437 shooting_direction_button.onTrue(m_shooter.toggleDirection());
438 }
439
440 // Bind other triggers to commands here; both auto and teleop
441 private void configureTriggerBindings() {
442     // While in intaking mode, run intaking commands
443     m_shooter.isIntaking
444         .whileTrue(m_frontManipulator.setIntaking()
445             .alongWith(m_backManipulator.setIntaking()
446                 .alongWith(m_pivot.setIntaking()))
447             .withName("Intaking"));
448
449     // In both auto and teleop, we want to stop intaking when we have a gamepiece.
450     // This is because we want to retract the intake assoon as possible
451     // It doesn't mean that we stop feeding the game piece.
452     // Short delay to ensure the game piece is fully inside.
453     m_shooter.isIntaking
454         .and(m_shooter.hasGamePiece)
455         .debounce(k_intakingDelay, Debouncer.DebounceType.kRising)
456         .onTrue(m_shooter.stop());
457
458     // If the game piece needs to be fed, run feeding commands on both rollers
459     // This moves the game piece away from the shooter and into the holder
460     m_shooter.shouldFeed
461         .whileTrue(
462             m_frontManipulator.setFeeding()
463             .alongWith(m_backManipulator.setFeeding())
464             .withName("Feeding"));
465
466     // In both auto and teleop, if we're aimable and in range, aim the pivot
467     m_shooter.shouldAim
468         .and(isInShootingRange)
469         .whileTrue(m_pivot.setAiming());
470
471     // In both auto and teleop, spin up the shooter when we're ready to rev and in-range
472     m_shooter.shouldRevShooter
473         .and(isInShootingRange)
474         .whileTrue(m_shooterManipulator.setShooting());
475
476     // When everything is ready to shoot, spin up the holder/feeder as well
477     // This will push the game piece into the shooter
478     m_shooter.shouldRevHolder
479         .and(m_pivot.isReady)
480         .and(m_shooterManipulator.isReady)
```

```
479         .whileTrue(m_holderManipulator.setShooting());
480
481     // In both auto and teleop, stop shooting when we don't have a gamepiece or we go out of r
482     m_shooter.isShooting
483         .and(m_shooter.hasGamepiece.negate())
484         .or(isInShootingRange.negate())
485         .onTrue(m_shooter.stop());
486
487     // Reset to known state when we're disabled
488     // This ensures we enter auto or teleop in a consistent state, no matter what state we wer
489     RobotModeTriggers.disabled().onTrue(
490         m_shooter.stop()
491         .andThen(m_shooter.setForwards())
492         .runsWhenDisabled().withName("Reset Shooter"));
493 }
494
495 // Here we define some named commands that we can use in auto
496 private void configureNamedCommands() {
497     // These commands only use the Shooter subsystem and,
498     // while they do indirectly affect the manipulators and the pivot,
499     // they do so through triggers that depend on the shooter internal state.
500     // Hence they do not interfere with the default commands and triggers of the other subsystems
501     // We use the asProxy() method to ensure that the command is not interrupted by other commands
502     // In this way, default commands and triggers will work normally during autonomous.
503
504     NamedCommands.registerCommand("Intake",
505         m_shooter.startIntaking().asProxy()
506             .until(m_shooter.hasGamePiece)
507             .withTimeout(k_intakingTimeout)
508             .withName("Intake"));
509
510     NamedCommands.registerCommand("Shoot Forwards",
511         m_shooter.setForwards().asProxy()
512             .withName("Shoot Forwards"));
513
514     NamedCommands.registerCommand("Shoot Backwards",
515         m_shooter.setBackwards().asProxy()
516             .withName("Shoot Backwards"));
517
518     NamedCommands.registerCommand("Shoot",
519         m_shooter.startShooting().asProxy()
520             .until(m_shooter.isIdle)
521             .withName("Shoot"));
522 }
523
524 private void configureDashboard() {
525     // Add Sendable objects to the dashboard
526     SendableRegistry.addLW(this);
527 }
```

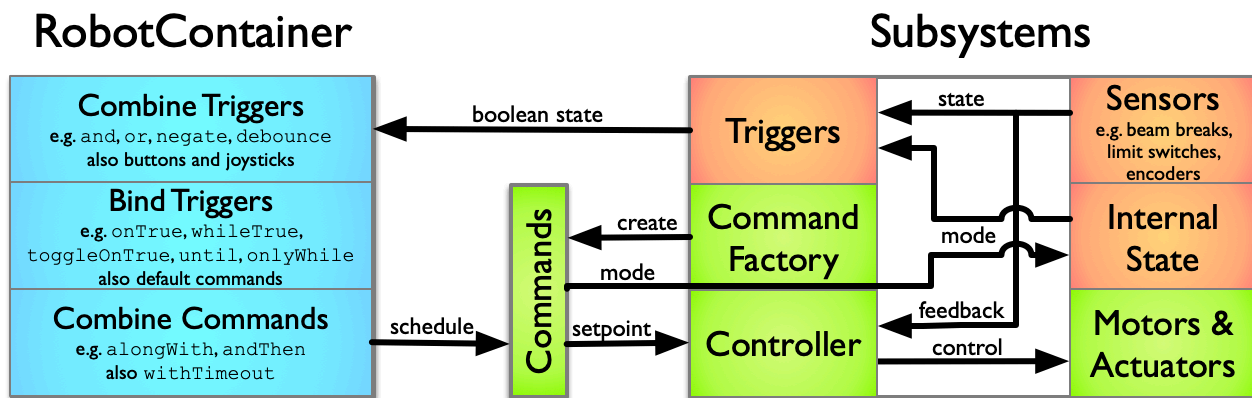
```

528
529 RobotContainer() {
530     // Default commands
531     m_frontManipulator.setDefaultCommand(m_frontManipulator.stop());
532     m_backManipulator.setDefaultCommand(m_backManipulator.stop());
533     m_pivot.setDefaultCommand(m_pivot.setHome());
534
535     configureButtonBindings();
536     configureTriggerBindings();
537     configureNamedCommands();
538     configureDashboard();
539 }
540
541 @Override
542 public void initSendable(SendableBuilder builder) {
543     builder.addBooleanProperty("In Shooting Range?", isInShootingRange, null);
544     builder.addDoubleProperty("Speaker Distance (m)", () -> m_speakerDistance, null);
545 }

```

bovlb commented on Sep 15, 2024

Author



bovlb commented on Sep 16, 2024

Author

