

# Autonomous Systems - Assignment 1 Report

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We installed the ROS (Robotic Operating System) as the middleware to manage communication between agents and to simulate the multiagent environment for the campus tour.

## Workspace Setup

Once ROS was installed, the next step was to set up the ROS workspace where the campus\_tour package will be developed.

### Creating Catkin workspace

```
mkdir -p ~/catkin_ws/src  
cd ~/catkin_ws/  
catkin_make  
source devel/setup.bash
```

### CrewAI and ROSPy Installation

```
pip install crewai  
pip install rospy
```

### Creating the campus\_tour Package

- Navigate to the workspace src directory:  
cd ~/catkin\_ws/src
- Create the campus\_tour package:  
catkin\_create\_pkg campus\_tour rospy std\_msgs
- Build the workspace:  
cd ~/catkin\_ws/  
catkin\_make
- Source the workspace again:  
source ~/catkin\_ws/devel/setup.bash

## Message Types

To facilitate communication between the CI agents and BI agents, message types were defined.

#### Navigate to the msg folder:

```
mkdir -p ~/catkin_ws/src/campus_tour/msg  
cd ~/catkin_ws/src/campus_tour/msg
```

#### Create msg files

```
touch NavigationRequest.msg  
touch NavigationResponse.msg  
touch OOSNotification.msg
```

Defined the message formats

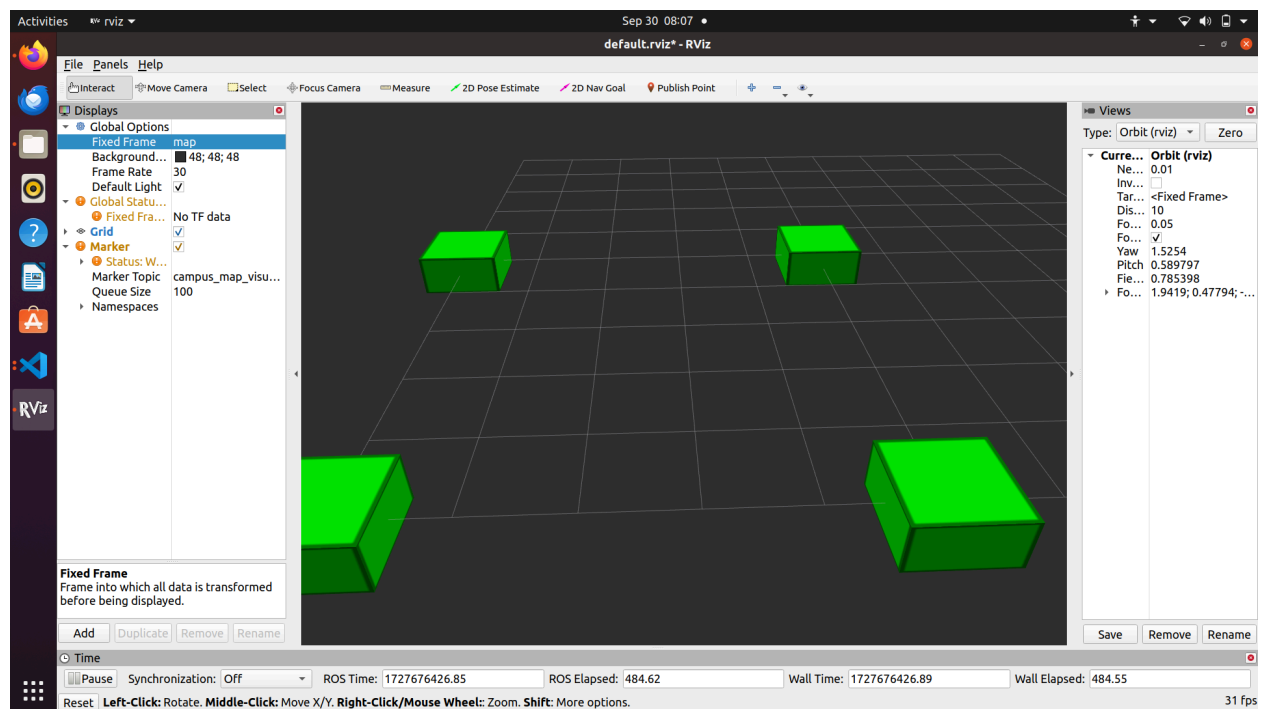
Updated CMakeLists.txt and package.xml

Rebuilt the workspace

With this the foundational environment for implementing and testing the multiagent system for the campus virtual tour was ready.

## Visualization of Campus Buildings Using ROS and Markers

A basic map is plotted on rviz to get familiar with the software



Then for the final campus map each building is represented by Marker objects published to specific topics, with different colors, dimensions, and positions for each building and its components.

## 1. Entrance Gate

**Topic:** /campus\_map\_visualization

- **Color:** Red (RGBA: 1.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0)
- **Scale:** (2.0, 0.5, 3.0) for width, height, and depth of the gate.

## 2. Main Academic Block

**Topic:** acad\_map\_visualization

- **Color:** Blue (RGBA: 0.0, 0.0, 1.0, 1.0)
- **Scale:** (8.0, 8.0, 10.0) for the size of the building.

## 3. Library

**Topic:** library\_map\_visualization

- **Color:** Blue for outer walls (RGBA: 0.0, 0.0, 1.0, 1.0)
- **Pathways:** Yellow markers for pathways within the library.

## 4. Lecture Hall Complex (LHC)

**Topic:** lhc\_map\_visualization

- **Color:** Yellow (RGBA: 1.0, 1.0, 0.0, 1.0)
- **Scale:** (8.0, 20.0, 8.0) for dimensions of the LHC.

## 5. Hostels

**Topic:** hostel\_map\_visualization

- **Color:** Orange (RGBA: 1.0, 0.65, 0.0, 1.0)
- **Scale:** (15.0, 15.0, 15.0) for each hostel block.

## 6. Sports Complex

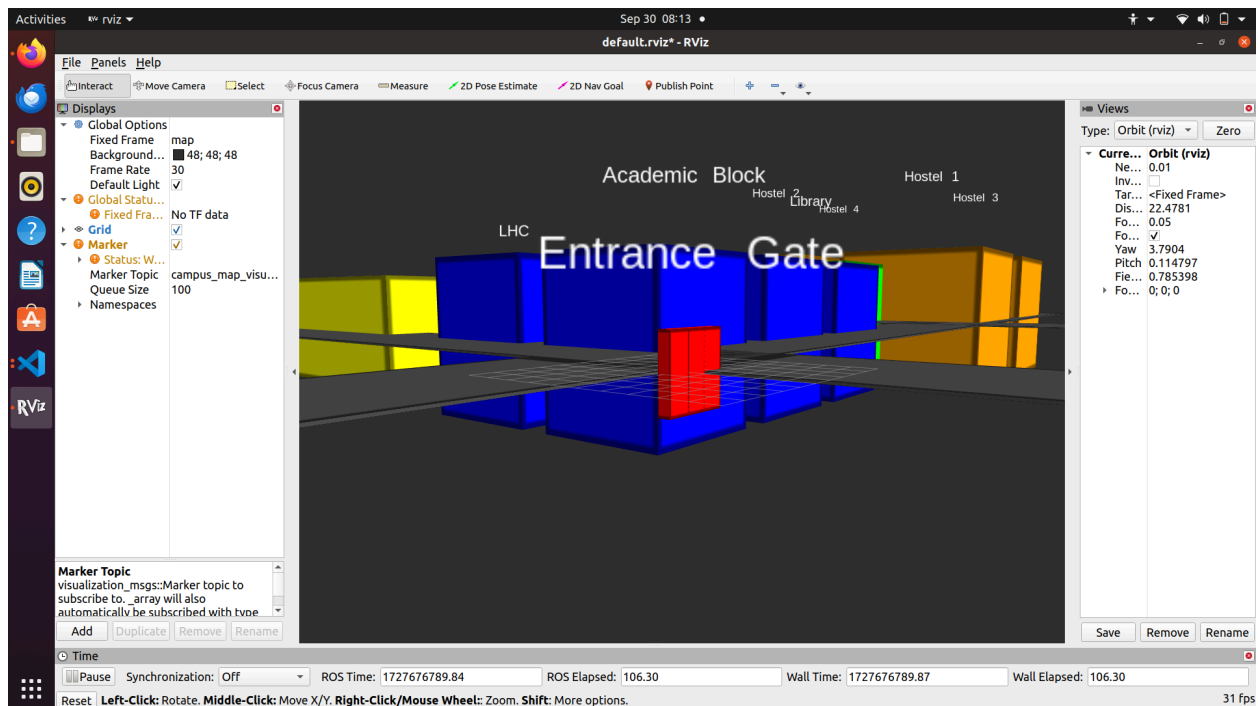
**Topic:** sports\_complex\_map\_visualization

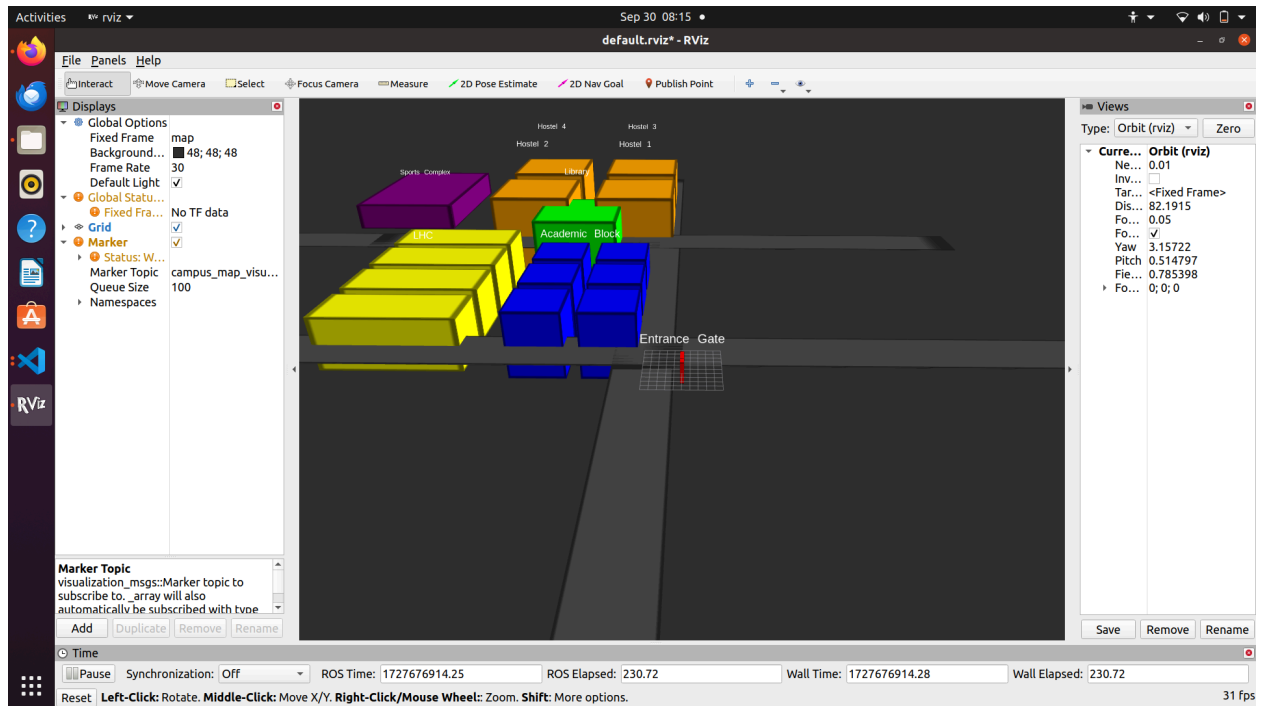
- **Color:** Purple (RGBA: 0.5, 0.0, 0.5, 1.0)
- **Scale:** (30.0, 20.0, 5.0) for size of the sports complex.

## 7. Roads

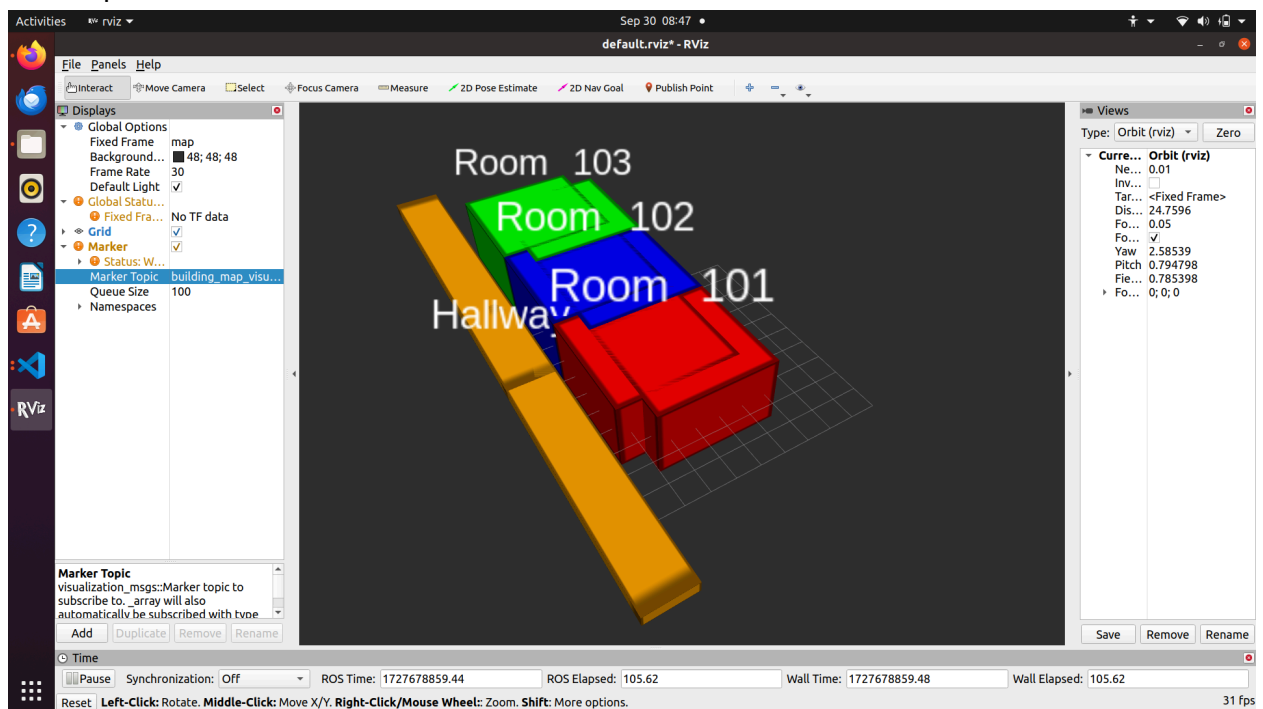
**Topic:** campus\_map\_visualization

- **Color:** Dark Gray (RGBA: 0.3, 0.3, 0.3, 1.0)
  - **Scale:** Roads are defined with varying lengths and widths.
1. The markers are created using the Marker message type. Each marker has a unique ID and namespace, and markers are added to represent both the physical structures and text labels.
  2. Buildings and rooms are visually distinct based on their color and scale, which helps in the clear differentiation of campus areas.
  3. Text labels are generated for each building or room, with unique IDs to prevent conflicts in visualization.
  4. Each building or map is published to its own topic, allowing separation of visualization streams in RViz.





The map of academic block is also visualized as below-



Made the script executable  
Launched using rosrn

**Campus\_tour.rviz** - The `campus_tour.rviz` file is a crucial configuration for RViz that enables effective visualization of maps, markers, and interactive tools in our virtual campus tour project. It includes a Displays Panel for managing visualization elements like grids and markers, a Selection Panel for object interaction, and a Tool Properties Panel for essential tools such as pose estimation and navigation goals. The Global Options feature a dark gray background and a fixed frame set to "map," with a frame rate of 30 frames per second for smooth visuals. We have also set the default view to "Orbit," focusing on the origin from a distance of 10 units, and the RViz window is configured at 1200x846 pixels. This setup enhances our user experience by facilitating seamless interaction and visualization within the 3D environment.

This helped us in the virtual campus tour project, facilitating the visualization of maps, markers, and interactive tools.

**CMakeLists.txt** - `CMakeLists.txt` file which we made is essential for configuring the **campus\_tour** ROS package, helping us establish the project name and ensures compatibility with C++11, which is necessary for ROS Kinetic and newer distributions.

In it we identified the crucial dependencies, including **roscpp** for C++ functionalities, **rospy** for Python integration, **std\_msgs** for standard message types, and **message\_generation** for custom message support. Here we declared two custom message files, `NavigationRequest.msg` and `NavigationResponse.msg`, enabling the package to communicate specific navigation requests and responses.

Furthermore, we generated the message definitions for properly integration with the ROS environment. The `catkin_package` command confirms the package's status within the catkin workspace, while the inclusion of header file directories allows for seamless integration with other components. The `CMakeLists.txt` file enabled setting the **campus\_tour** package, facilitating communication between various parts of the campus tour system.

**package.xml** - The `package.xml` file is a vital component of our **campus\_tour** ROS (Robot Operating System) package, as it defines its metadata and dependencies.

In this XML document, we have specified the package name as **campus\_tour** and assigned it a version number of **0.0.0**. The description highlights the package's purpose as a multi-agent system designed for campus tours.

Key elements in the file include our contact information as the maintainer, which currently contains a placeholder email and name. We plan to update these details before deployment. We have set the license to **BSD**, indicating that this package is open-source.

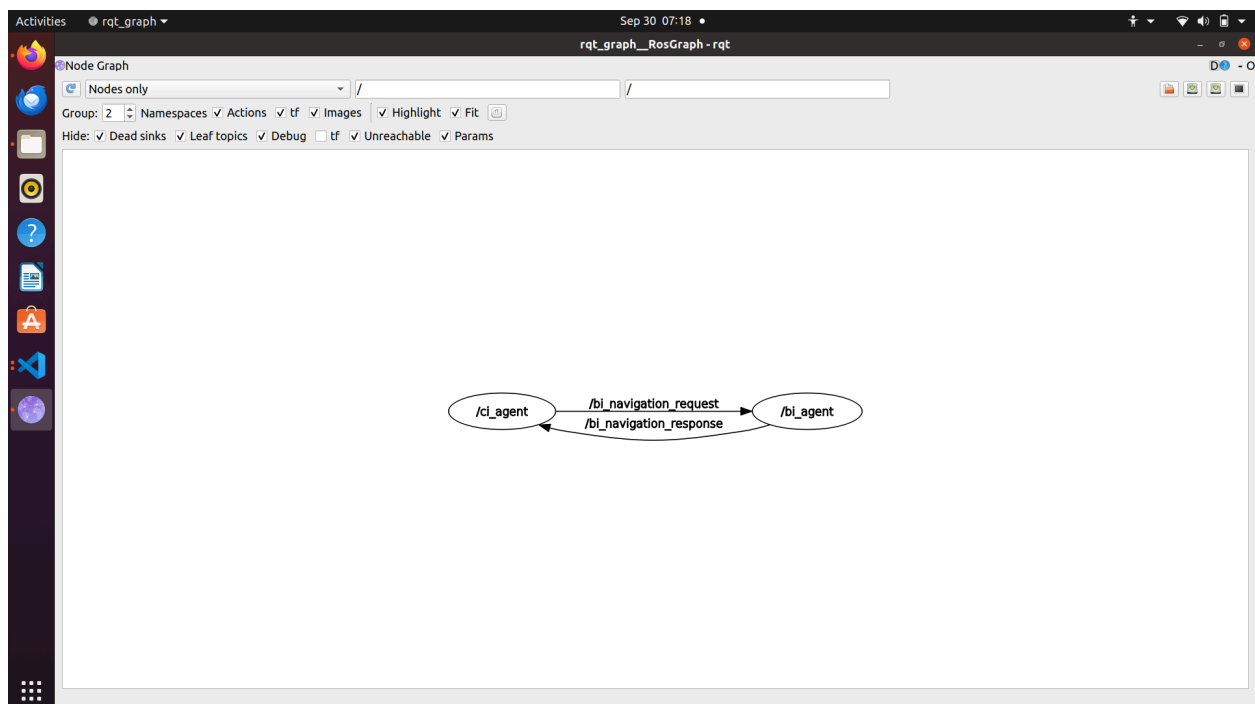
The `buildtool_depend` tag designates **catkin** as the required build tool. Additionally, we have outlined several dependencies needed during both the build and execution phases. These include **message\_generation** for creating custom messages, **message\_runtime** for handling messages at runtime, **std\_msgs** for standard message types, **rospy** for Python support, and **roscpp** for C++ integration.

We have included the `export` tag for potential future expansions, which will allow us to declare additional tools and configurations as needed.

**campus\_tour.launch** - This launch file defines how different nodes (agents) will be started and executed when the system is launched.

## Interaction protocols

Started with a basic structure of request and response between the `ci_agent` and `bi_agent` to understand how the protocol interactions work. The graph for the same when generated was as below



After having a basic understanding, we designed a system for the interaction of the multi agent system for the campus and the building maps as initiated.

# System Components

The system comprises three types of agents: CI agents, BI agents, and Visitor agents. Each agent has a specific role and responsibilities, and they communicate with each other via ROS topics using publish-subscribe mechanisms.

## 1. CI Agent (Campus Incharge Agent):

- Handles requests from Visitor agents and provides guidance based on communication with BI agents.
- Responsible for managing visitor requests, directing visitors to the appropriate building, and coordinating with the respective BI agent to retrieve building information such as maps or host availability.

## 2. BI Agent (Building Incharge Agent):

- Manages specific buildings on the campus and provides building-related information (such as maps or host availability) to CI agents.
- Each BI agent is responsible for one building, and it interacts with the CI agent when a request is forwarded.

## 3. Visitor Agent:

- Acts as the initiator of the system, where visitors request assistance from the CI agent.
- The Visitor agent simulates multiple visitor requests, directing them randomly to different CI agents.

# System Workflow

The following steps describe the typical workflow within the multiagent system:

## 1. Initialization

- Each agent is initialized in a separate ROS node. The CI and BI agents are initialized with specific responsibilities.
- For instance, a CI agent is tasked with managing requests for multiple buildings, while a BI agent is assigned to provide details about a particular building.

## 2. Visitor Requests

- Visitor agents are created with unique identifiers (Visitor ID). Each visitor can randomly choose any CI agent to request assistance from.
- Visitor agents publish their request messages to the corresponding CI agent's request topic in ROS.

## 3. CI Agent Response



- Upon receiving a visitor request, the CI agent determines if it is available to assist. If not busy, the CI agent proceeds to handle the request.
- The CI agent selects the requested building and then contacts the corresponding BI agent for that building to request a map or host details.
- The CI agent logs every interaction and responds to the visitor based on the information received from the BI agent.

#### **4. BI Agent Response**

- The BI agent receives the request from the CI agent and responds based on its availability and the current state of the building (whether a map or host is available).
- The BI agent simulates a response indicating whether it can provide the necessary assistance (e.g., delivering a map or notifying that no host is available).
- The BI agent publishes the response back to the CI agent's response topic.

#### **5. Visitor Interaction Completion**

- Based on the BI agent's response, the CI agent provides further guidance to the visitor. This may include escorting the visitor to the host or providing the requested map.
- After completing the interaction, the CI agent logs the completion of the tour and returns the visitor to the entrance of the campus, marking the interaction as complete.

#### **6. Logging of Interactions**

- A log file is maintained to track every interaction between the agents. Each time an agent processes a request or respond to another agent, the action is recorded in a centralized log file for auditing and debugging purposes.

## **Performance analysis and interpretation of results**

### **1. Assistance and Map Requests:**

- The Visitor agent frequently assists Visitor by contacting different BI agents for maps of various locations (e.g., hostels, library, sports complex, academic block, and LHC).
- There are instances where the BI agents are either "currently out of service" or "not available." This is noted multiple times, indicating potential reliability issues with certain BI agents.

### **2. Service Responses:**

- Responses from BI agents vary, with some providing the requested maps and others indicating unavailability or busy status. For example, while the

bi\_agent\_lhc provided the map on several occasions, other agents like bi\_agent\_library showed unavailability more frequently.

3. **Visitor Navigation:**

- The Visitor agent successfully guides Visitor 1 to different hosts based on the maps provided, indicating a smooth navigation process when the BI agents are responsive.

## Areas for Improvement

1. **Agent Availability:**

- The repeated unavailability of several BI agents suggests a need for a monitoring mechanism to assess and improve their uptime. Consider implementing a fallback strategy where, if the primary BI agent is unavailable, the Visitor agent could attempt to contact an alternative agent or provide a generic map.

2. **Response Time Optimization:**

- The logs show delays in responses, with the Visitor agent having to wait for replies from the BI agents before proceeding with assistance. Implementing asynchronous communication or optimizing the query process might reduce wait times and enhance user experience.

3. **Error Handling:**

- The system could be improved with better error handling when a BI agent is unavailable. Instead of simply stating "I am currently out of service," a more constructive message could include alternative options or estimated wait times for when the agent will be available.

4. **Logging Enhancements:**

- While the current logging captures the interaction flow, enriching the logs with timestamps for each request and response could provide deeper insights into performance metrics and areas needing attention.

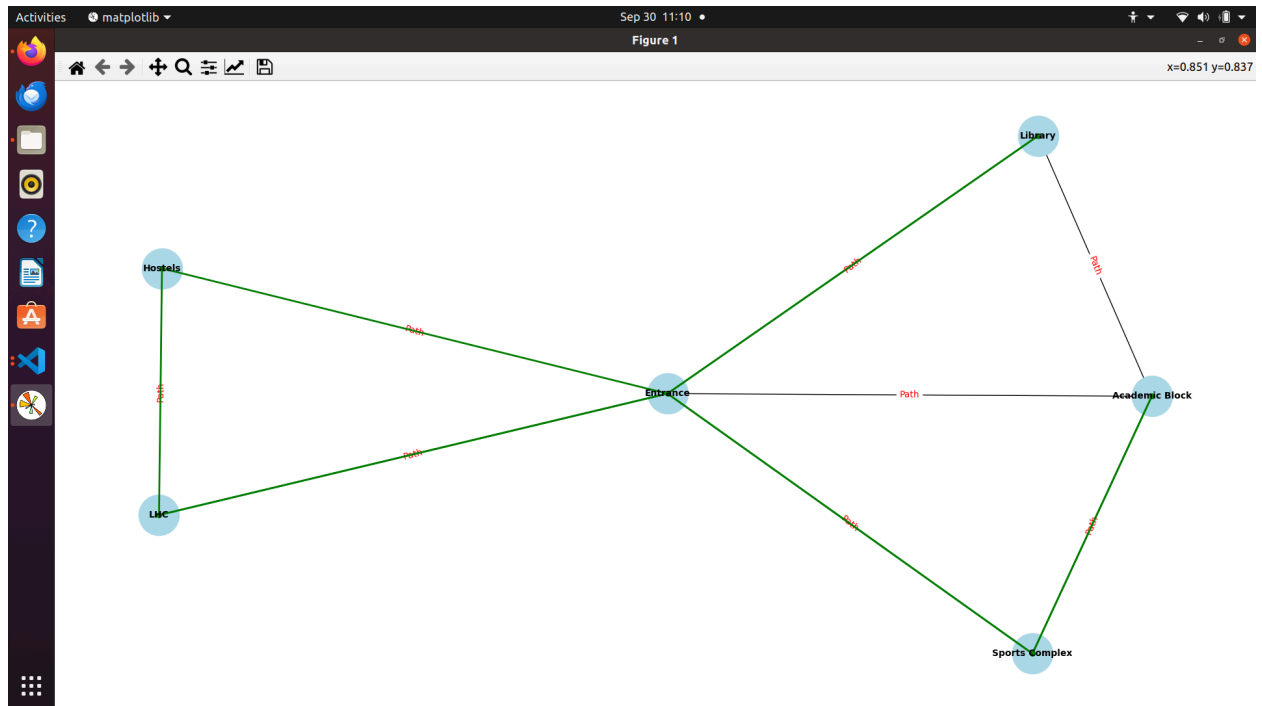
5. **User Feedback Loop:**

- Implementing a feedback mechanism after assisting the Visitor could provide valuable insights into the user experience and help fine-tune agent interactions. Gathering feedback could highlight persistent issues or feature requests from visitors.

## Visualization Output

Created a graph visualization that represents:

- **Nodes:** The buildings on the campus (Entrance, Library, Academic Block, Sports Complex, Hostels, LHC).
- **Edges:** The paths between the buildings.
- **Agent Movements:** Green lines showing the paths taken by agents as they assist visitors.



Attached are a few steps during execution

Activities Visual Studio Code

Sep 30 15:11

visitor\_agent.py - catkin\_ws - Visual Studio Code

File Edit Selection View Go Run Terminal Help

EXPLORER

- catkin\_ws
  - src
    - campus\_tour
      - include
      - launch
      - msg
        - NavigationRequest.msg
        - NavigationResponse.msg
        - OOSNotification.msg
      - rviz
      - scripts
        - \_\_pycache\_\_
        - academic\_block\_map.py
        - bi\_agent.py
        - campus\_map.py
        - ci\_agent.py
        - hostels.py
        - lhc\_map.py
        - library\_map.py
        - sports\_complex.py
        - visitor\_agent.py
        - visualize\_navigation.py
      - src
        - CMakeLists.txt
        - package.xml
        - CMakeLists.txt
        - catkin\_workspace
        - bi\_agent\_performance.log
        - ci\_agent\_performance.log
        - interaction\_log.txt
      - OUTLINE
      - TIMELINE

src > campus\_tour > scripts > visitor\_agent.py > ...

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python3
2 import rospy
3 from std_msgs.msg import String
4 import random
5
6 class VisitorAgent:
7     def __init__(self, visitor_id):
```

PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS

[ 83%] Built target campus\_tour\_generate\_messages\_eus  
[100%] Built target campus\_tour\_generate\_messages\_nodejs  
[100%] Built target campus\_tour\_generate\_messages

drithi@drithi-Latitude-5420:~/catkin\_ws\$ source devel/setup.bash  
drithi@drithi-Latitude-5420:~/catkin\_ws\$ roscore  
... logging to /home/drithi/.ros/log/fb1ae94-7f22-11ef-9987-332d5edfaee/roslaunch-drithi-Latitude-5420-5368.log  
Checking log directory for disk usage. This may take a while.  
Press Ctrl-C to interrupt  
Done checking log file disk usage. Usage is <1GB.

started roslaunch server http://drithi-Latitude-5420:35121/  
ros\_comm version 1.16.0

SUMMARY  
=====

PARAMETERS  
\* /roslaunch: noetic  
\* /rosversion: 1.16.0

NODES

auto-starting new master  
process[master]: started with pid [5385]  
ROS\_MASTER\_URI=http://drithi-Latitude-5420:11311/

setting /run\_id to fb1ae94-7f22-11ef-9987-332d5edfaee  
process[roslaunch-1]: started with pid [5402]  
started core service [/roslout]

Ln 33, Col 1 (1061 selected) Spaces: 4 UTF-8 LF Python 3.8.10

The screenshot displays the Visual Studio Code interface with the file explorer on the left showing a project structure with folders like 'block\_map.py', 'library\_map.py', and 'campus\_tour.rviz'. The main editor window is open to 'visitor\_agent.py', which contains a Python class definition for 'VisitorAgent'. The class has two methods: 'provide\_navigation\_path' and 'receive\_request'. The terminal at the bottom shows the output of running the script, which consists of a series of log messages indicating that the agent provides navigation paths and receives requests from various CI Agents (e.g., CI Agent 1, CI Agent 2, etc.). The status bar at the bottom indicates the current cursor position is at line 28, column 1.

The image shows a Visual Studio Code editor window titled "visitor\_agent.py - catkin\_ws - Visual Studio Code". The editor is displaying a Python script named "visitor\_agent.py" located in the "src" directory of a "campus\_tour" workspace. The script contains a function "rospy.sleep(3)" to simulate time on a campus, followed by a main loop that takes a visitor ID as input. The terminal output shows the execution of the script, displaying the path of the visitor and the status of the agents. The interface includes a sidebar with file explorer, search, and source control, and a bottom status bar showing the current file and line numbers.

Visual Studio Code interface showing the file explorer on the left with a project structure including CATKIN\_WS, devel, src, and various Python files. The main editor displays the interaction\_log.txt file, which contains a log of agent interactions. The terminal at the bottom shows the execution of a ROS launch file, with output indicating the successful launch of the agents and the start of the interaction log.

```
1 [1727684912.9680746] [1]: Assisting Visitor 1.
2 [1727684912.9683747] [1]: Contacting bi_agent_lhc for lhc map.
3 [1727684913.9696279] [1]: Visitor 1, your map for hostels is provided.
4 [1727684913.9699268] [1]: Taking Visitor 1 to the host in lhc.
5 [1727684915.9721217] [1]: Returned Visitor 1 to entrance.
6 [1727684915.972286] [1]: Assisting Visitor 1.
7 [1727684915.9723327] [1]: Contacting bi_agent_library for library map.
8 [1727684916.9736233] [1]: Visitor 1, host is not available.
9 [1727684919.9676063] [1]: Assisting Visitor 1.
10 [1727684919.967809] [1]: Contacting bi_agent_library for library map.
11 [1727684920.9684653] [1]: Visitor 1, I am currently out of service.
12 [1727684923.966283] [1]: Assisting Visitor 1.
13 [1727684923.9663982] [1]: Contacting bi_agent_library for library map.
14 [1727684924.967577] [1]: Visitor 1, host is not available.
15 [1727684927.9678183] [1]: Assisting Visitor 1.
16 [1727684927.9680548] [1]: Contacting bi_agent_lhc for lhc map.
17 [1727684928.9692626] [1]: Visitor 1, host is not available.
18 [1727684939.9677281] [1]: Assisting Visitor 1.
19 [1727684939.967981] [1]: Contacting bi_agent_library for library map.
20 [1727684940.969085] [1]: Visitor 1, I am currently out of service.
21 [1727684941.9684162] [1]: Assisting Visitor 1.
22 [1727684941.9685496] [1]: Contacting bi_agent_lhc for lhc map.
23 [1727684942.9698296] [1]: Visitor 1, I am currently out of service.
24 [1727684942.9700062] [1]: Assisting Visitor 1.
25 [1727684942.9700499] [1]: Contacting bi_agent_academic_block for academic_block map.
26 [1727684943.971217] [1]: Visitor 1, I am currently out of service.
27 [1727684944.968278] [1]: Assisting Visitor 1.
```

Visual Studio Code interface showing the file explorer on the left with a project structure including CATKIN\_WS, devel, src, and various Python files. The main editor displays the visualize\_navigation.py file, which contains a function to visualize the agent movements on a map. The terminal at the bottom shows the execution of the script, with output indicating the successful launch of the agents and the start of the interaction log.

```
30 def visualize_graph(G, agent_movements):
31     # Plot agent movements
32     for movement in agent_movements:
33         plt.plot([pos[movement[0]][0], pos[movement[1]][0]], [pos[movement[0]][1], pos[movement[1]][1]],
34                 color='green', linewidth=2, marker='o', markersize=5)
35
36     plt.title("Campus Navigation and Agent Movements")
37     plt.axis('off') # Turn off the axis
38     plt.show()
39
40 # Main function
41 def main():
42     G = create_campus_graph()
43
44 process[ci_agent-1]: started with pid [144480]
process[bi_agent-2]: started with pid [144481]
process[visitor_agent-3]: started with pid [144482]
[ci_agent-1] killing on exit
[bi_agent-2] killing on exit
[visitor_agent-3] killing on exit
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "/home/drithi/catkin_ws/src/campus_tour/scripts/bi_agent.py", line 44, in <module>
    bi_agent = BIAgent(building)
  File "/home/drithi/catkin_ws/src/campus_tour/scripts/bi_agent.py", line 11, in __init__
    rospy.init_node(f'bi_agent_{self.building_name}', anonymous=True)
  File "/opt/ros/noetic/lib/python3/dist-packages/rospy/client.py", line 274, in init_node
    raise rospy.exceptions.RoSPyException("rospy.init_node() has already been called with different arguments: "+str(_init_node_
args))
rospy.exceptions.RoSPyException: rospy.init_node() has already been called with different arguments: ('bi_agent_library', ['/home/drithi/catkin_ws/src/campus_tour/scripts/bi_agent.py', 'name=bi_agent', '_log=/home/drithi/.ros/log/ae6d5e-7ee9-11ef-af01-f1302a83cd24/bi_agent-2.log'], True, None, False, False)
... shutting down processing monitor complete
done
drithi@drithi-Latitude-5420:~/catkin_ws/src/campus_tour$
```