



ROS-Industrial Basic Developer's Training Class

February 2017



Southwest Research Institute





Session 3:

Motion Control of Manipulators

February 2017



Southwest Research Institute





URDF: Unified Robot Description Format

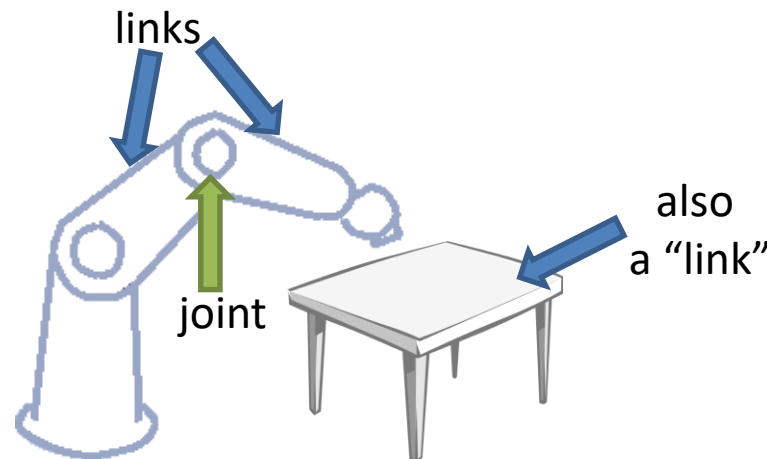




URDF: Overview



- URDF is an **XML**-formatted file containing:
 - **Links**: coordinate frames and associated geometry
 - **Joints**: connections between links
- Similar to DH-parameters (but much less difficult)
- Can describe entire workspace, not just robots

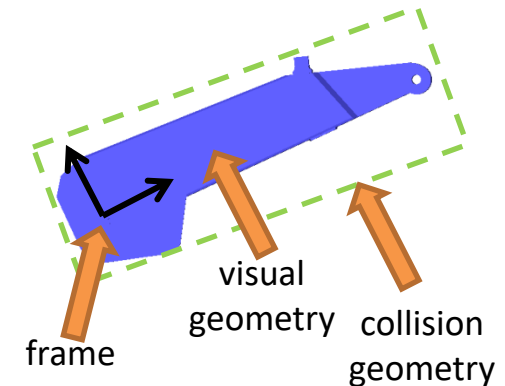




URDF: Link

- A **Link** describes a **physical** or **virtual** object
 - Physical: robot link, workpiece, end-effector, etc.
 - Virtual: TCP, robot base frame, etc.
- Each link becomes a **TF frame**
- Can contain visual/collision **geometry** [optional]

```
<link name="link_4">
  <visual>
    <geometry>
      <mesh filename="link_4.stl"/>
    </geometry>
    <origin xyz="0 0 0" rpy="0 0 0" />
  </visual>
  <collision>
    <geometry>
      <cylinder length="0.5" radius="0.1"/>
    </geometry>
    <origin xyz="0 0 -0.05" rpy="0 0 0" />
  </collision>
</link>
```



URDF Transforms

X/Y/Z	Roll/Pitch/Yaw
Meters	Radians



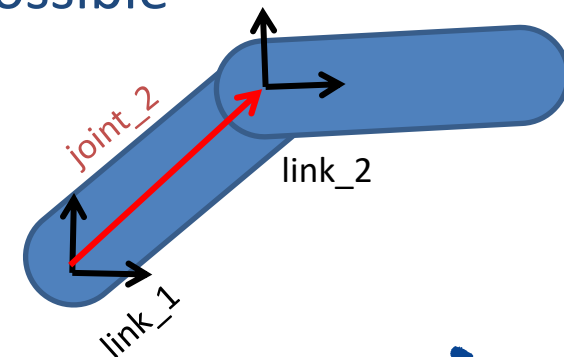


URDF: Joint



- A **Joint** connects two **Links**
 - Defines a **transform** between **parent** and **child** frames
 - Types: *fixed, free, linear, rotary*
 - Denotes axis of movement (*for linear / rotary*)
 - Contains joint limits on position and velocity
- ROS-I conventions
 - X-axis front, Z-Axis up
 - Keep all frames similarly rotated when possible

```
<joint name="joint_2" type="revolute">  
  <parent link="link_1"/>  
  <child link="link_2"/>  
  <origin xyz="0.2 0.2 0" rpy="0 0 0"/>  
  <axis xyz="0 0 1"/>  
  <limit lower="-3.14" upper="3.14" velocity="1.0"/>  
</joint>
```

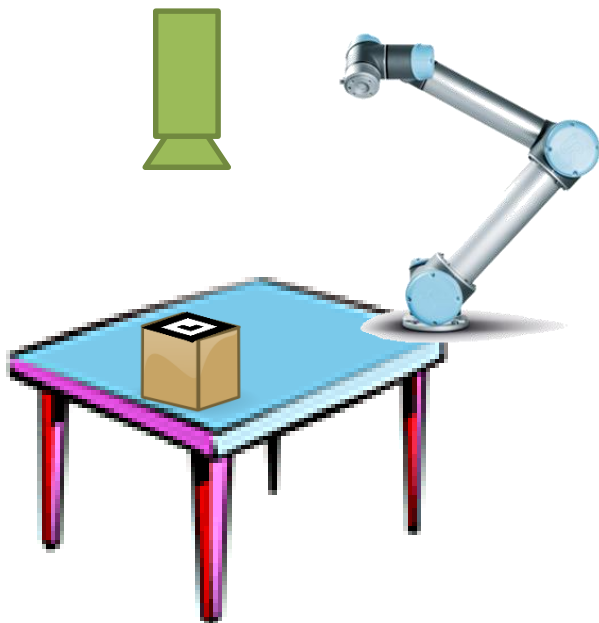




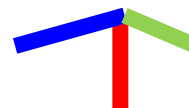
Exercise 3.0

Exercise 3.0

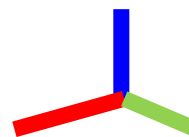
Create a simple urdf



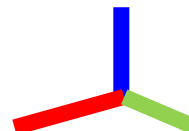
camera_frame



table



world





URDF: XACRO



- **XACRO** is an XML-based “**macro language**” for building **URDFs**
 - `<Include>` other XACROs, with parameters
 - Simple expressions: math, substitution
- Used to build complex URDFs
 - Multi-robot workcells
 - Reuse standard URDFs (e.g. robots, tooling)

```
<xacro:include filename="myRobot.xacro"/>
```

```
<xacro:myRobot prefix="left_" />
```

```
<xacro:myRobot prefix="right_" />
```

```
<property name="offset" value="1.3"/>
```

```
<joint name="world to left" type="fixed">
```

```
  <parent link="world"/>
```

```
  <child link="left base link"/>
```

```
  <origin xyz="${offset/2} 0 0" rpy="0 0 0"/>
```

```
</joint>
```

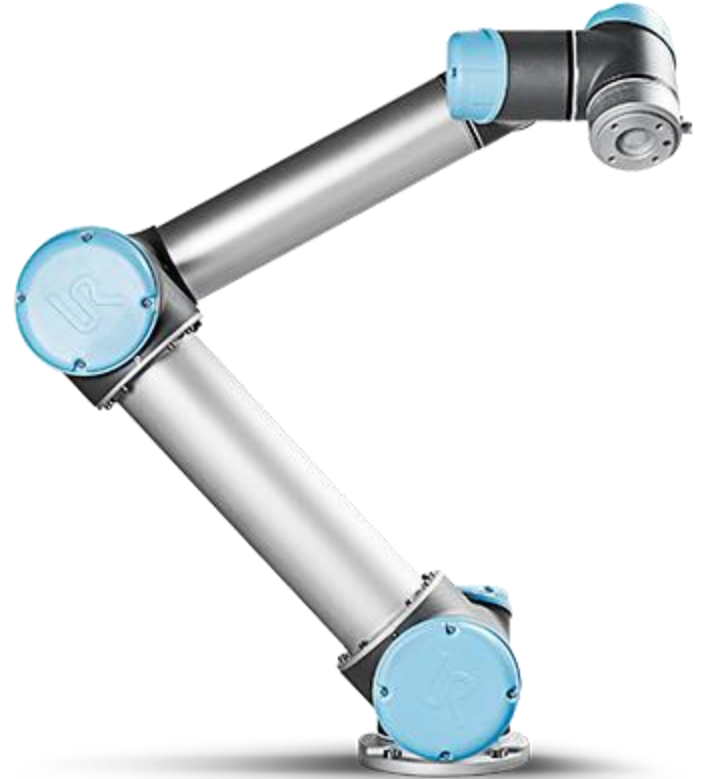




URDF Practical Examples



- Let's take a quick look at the UR5's URDF:
 - *In `ur_description/urdf/ur5.urdf.xacro`*

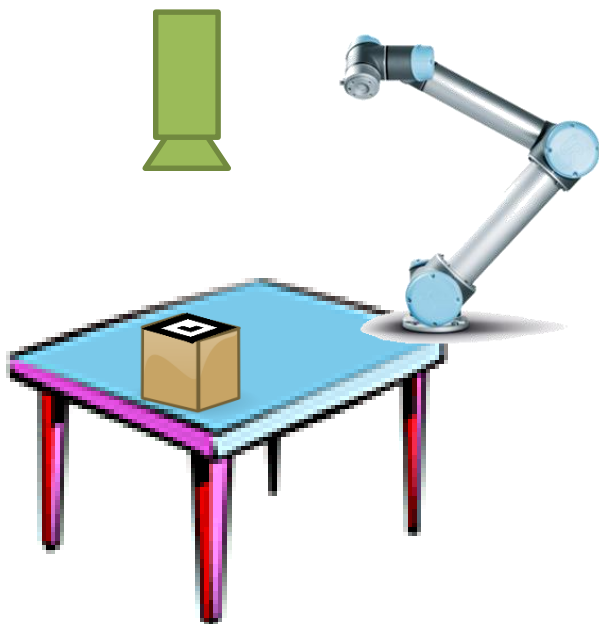




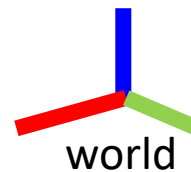
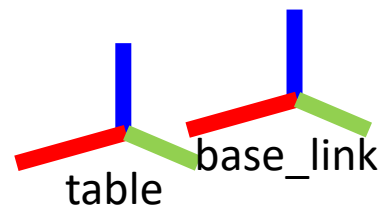
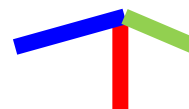
Exercise 3.1

Exercise 3.1

Combine simple urdf with ur5 xacro



camera_frame





TF – Transforms in ROS

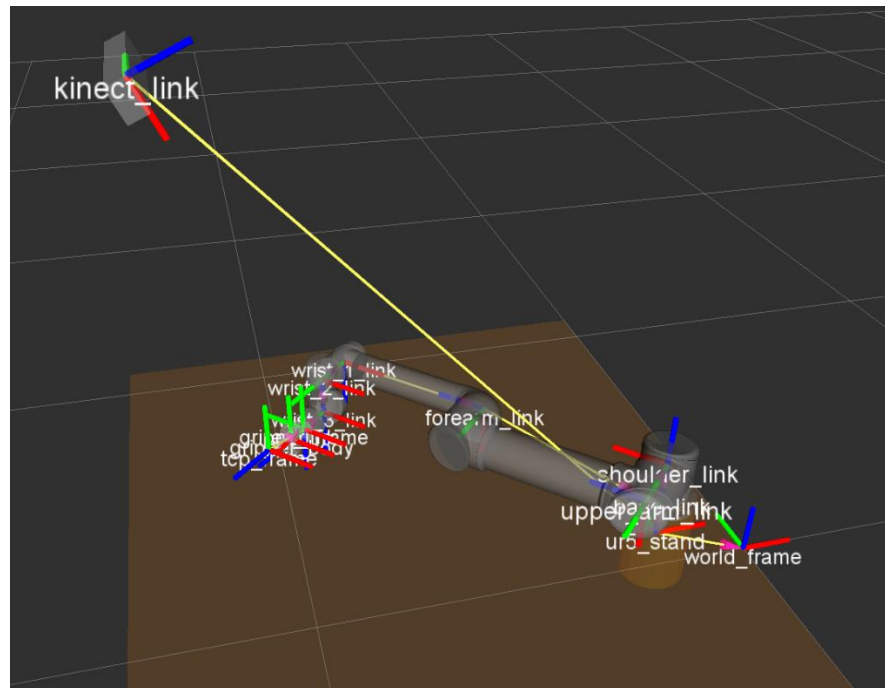




TF: Overview



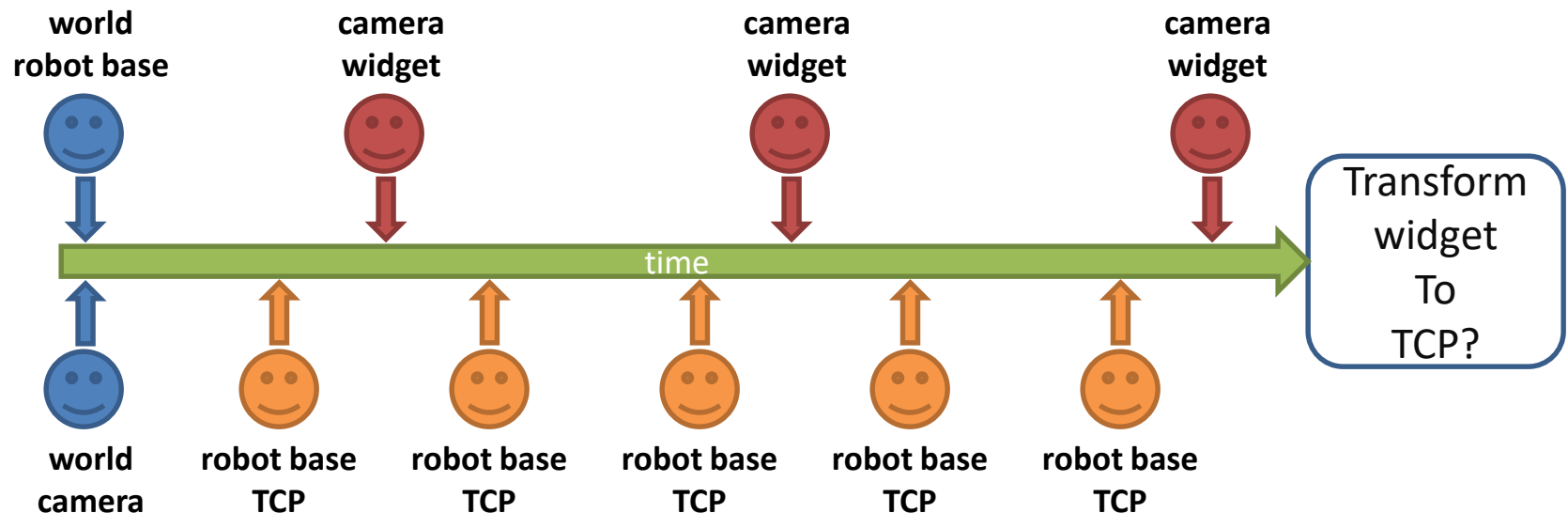
- TF is a **distributed framework** to track **coordinate frames**
- Each frame is related to at least one other frame





TF: Time Sync

- TF tracks frame history
 - Can be used to find transforms in the past!
 - Essential for asynchronous / distributed system





- Each **node** has its own **transformListener**
 - Listens to all tf messages, calculates relative transforms
 - Can try to transform in the past
 - Can only look as far back as it has been running

```
tf::TransformListener listener;  
tf::StampedTransform transform;  
  
listener.lookupTransform("target", "source", ros::Time(), transform);
```

Parent Frame
("reference")

Child Frame
("object")

Time

Result

- Note confusing "target/source" naming convention
- `ros::Time()` or `ros::Time(0)` give **latest** available transform
- `ros::Time::now()` usually fails

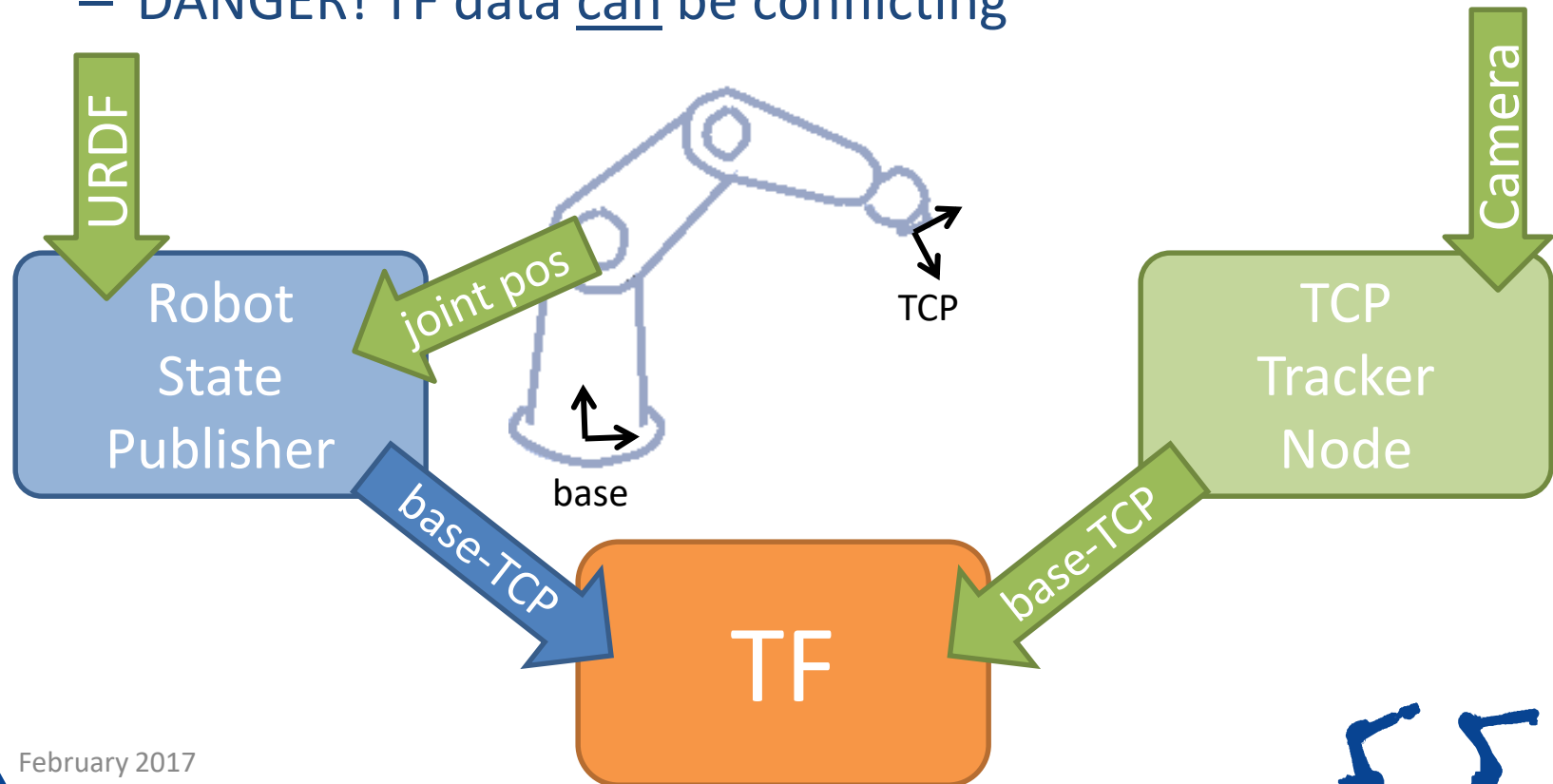




TF: Sources



- A `robot_state_publisher` provides TF data from a **URDF**
- Nodes can also publish TF data
 - DANGER! TF data can be conflicting

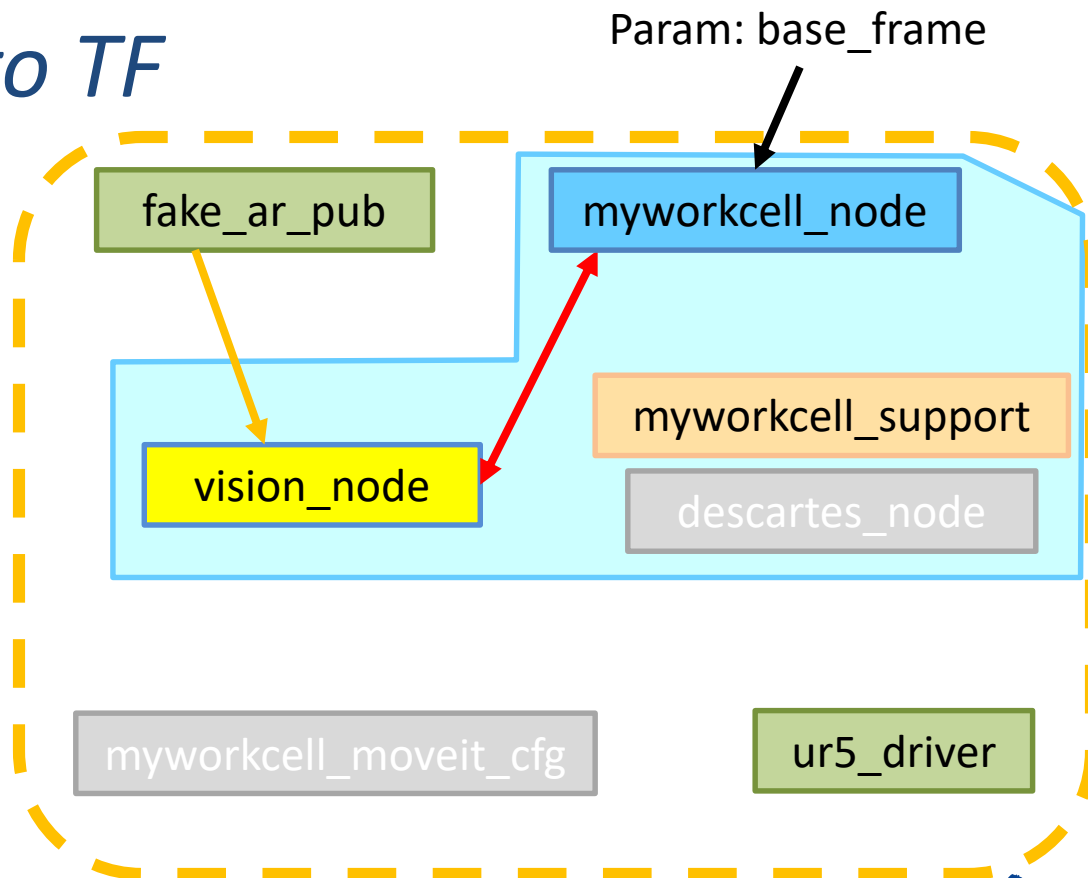
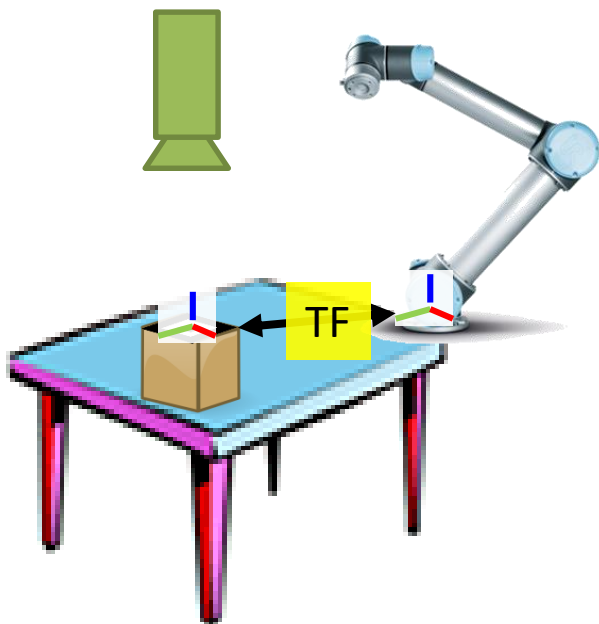




Exercise 3.2

Exercise 3.2

Introduction to TF



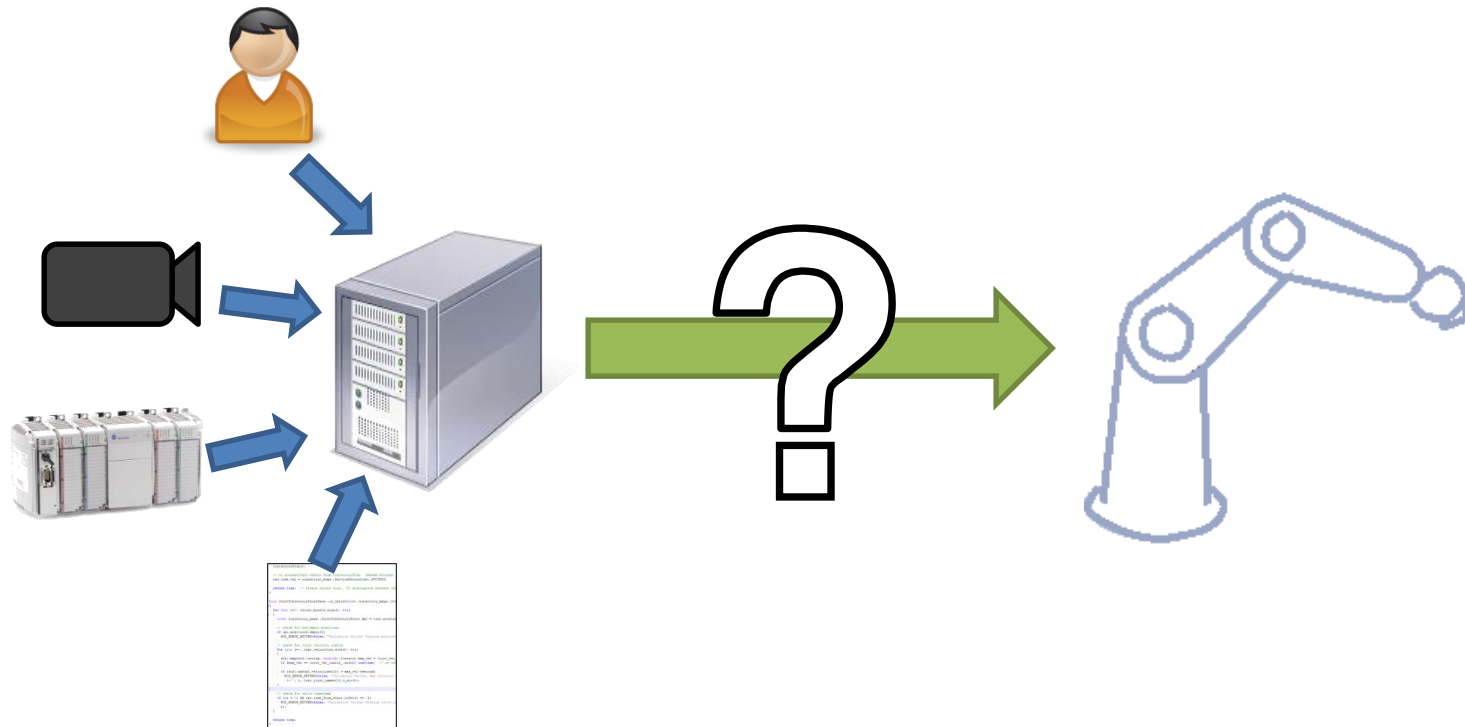


Motion Planning in ROS



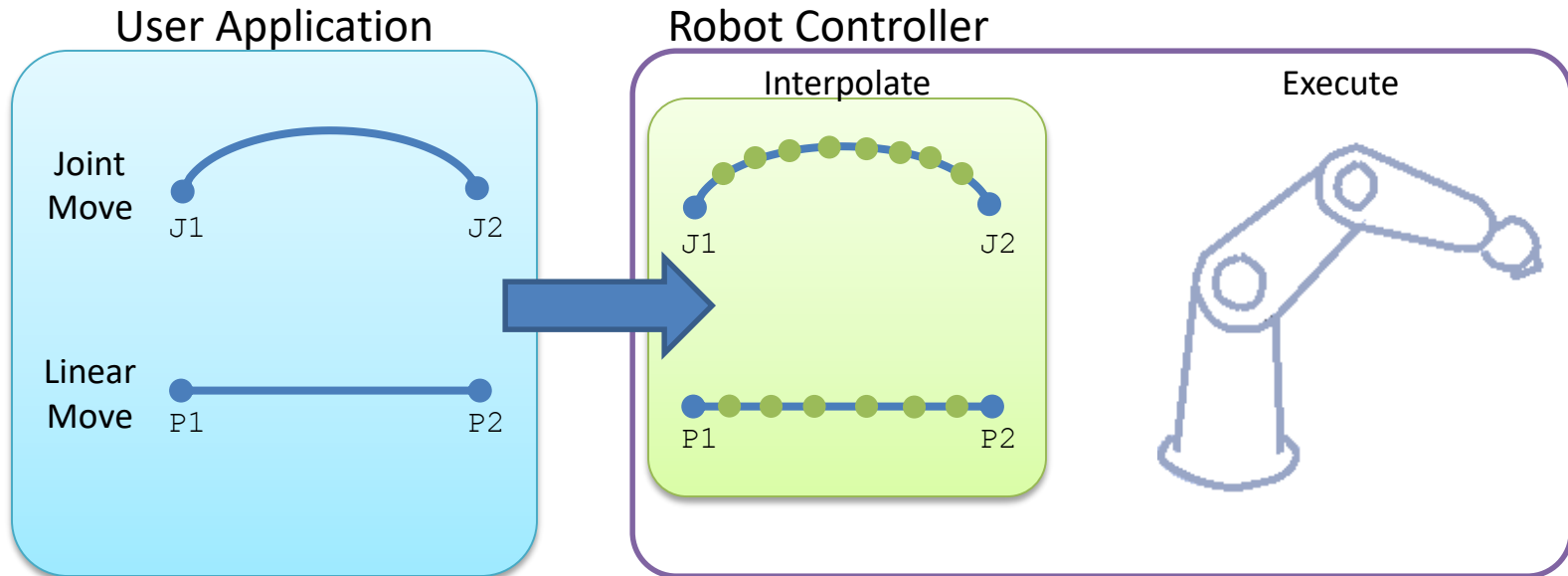


Motion Planning in ROS





Traditional Robot Programming

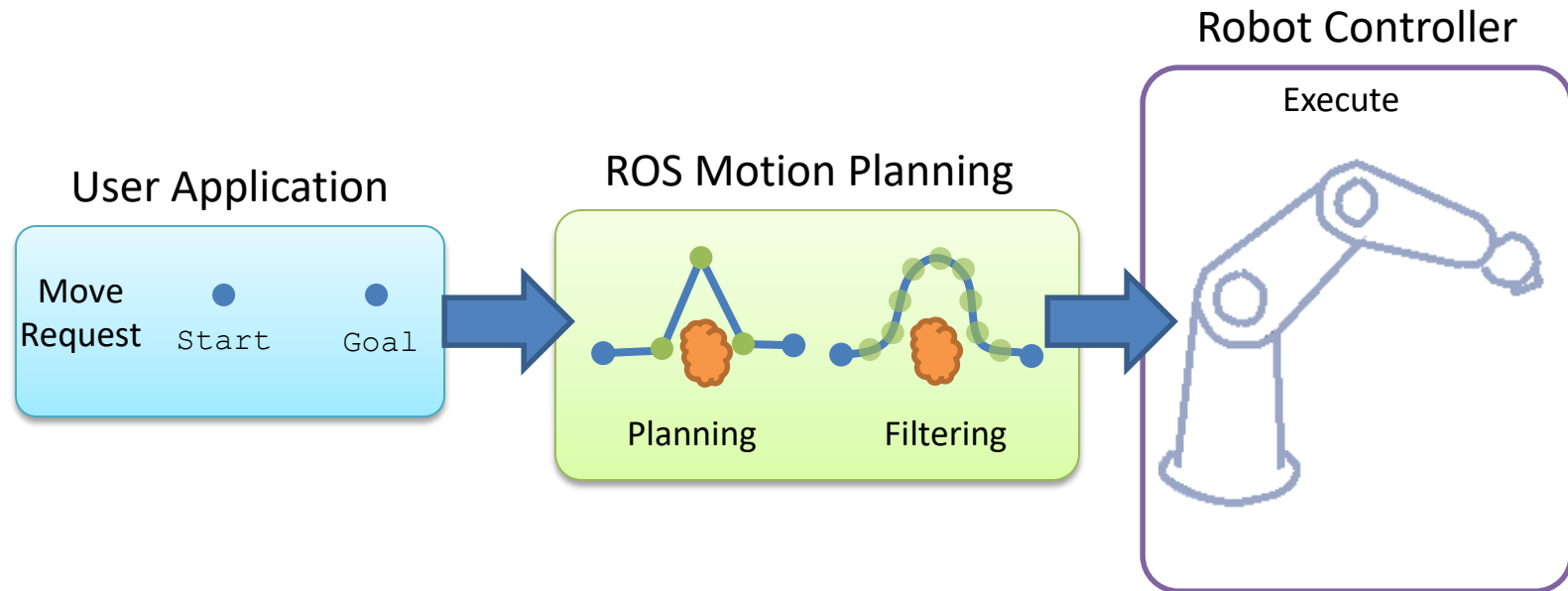


- Motion Types: *limited, but well-defined. One motion task.*
- Environment Model: *none*
- Execution Monitor: *application-specific*





ROS Motion Planning

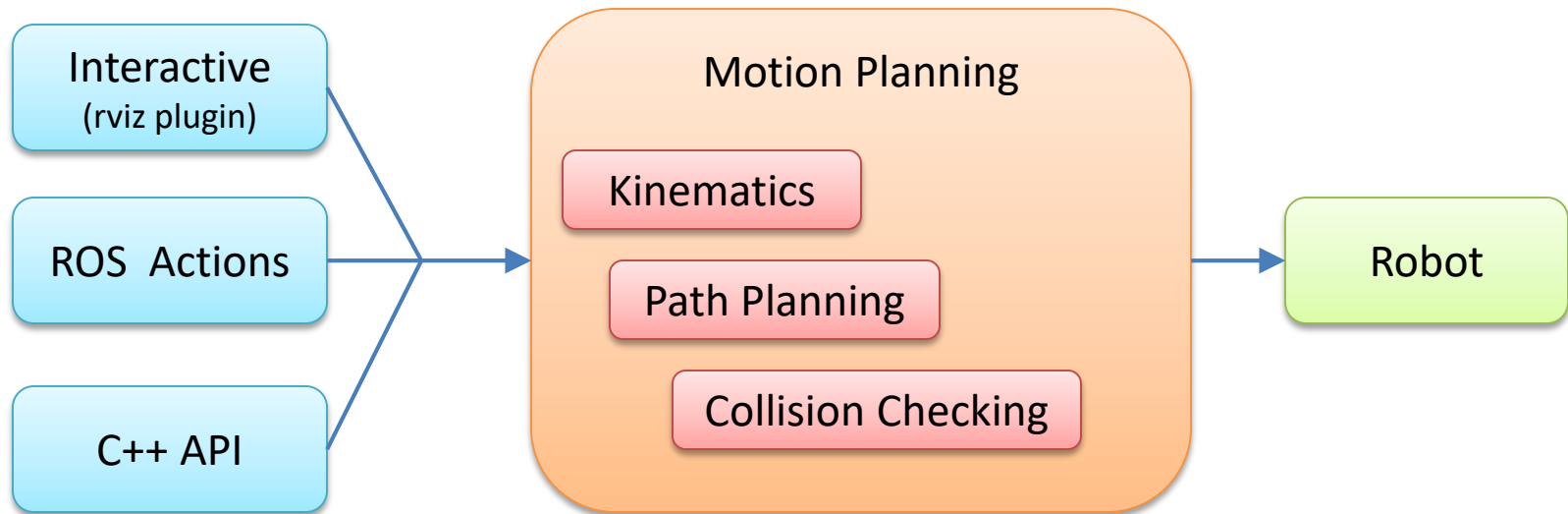


- **Motion Types:** *Flexible, goal-driven, with constraints
but minimal control over actual path*
- **Environment Model:** *Automatic, based on live sensor feedback*
- **Execution Monitor:** *Detects changes during motion*



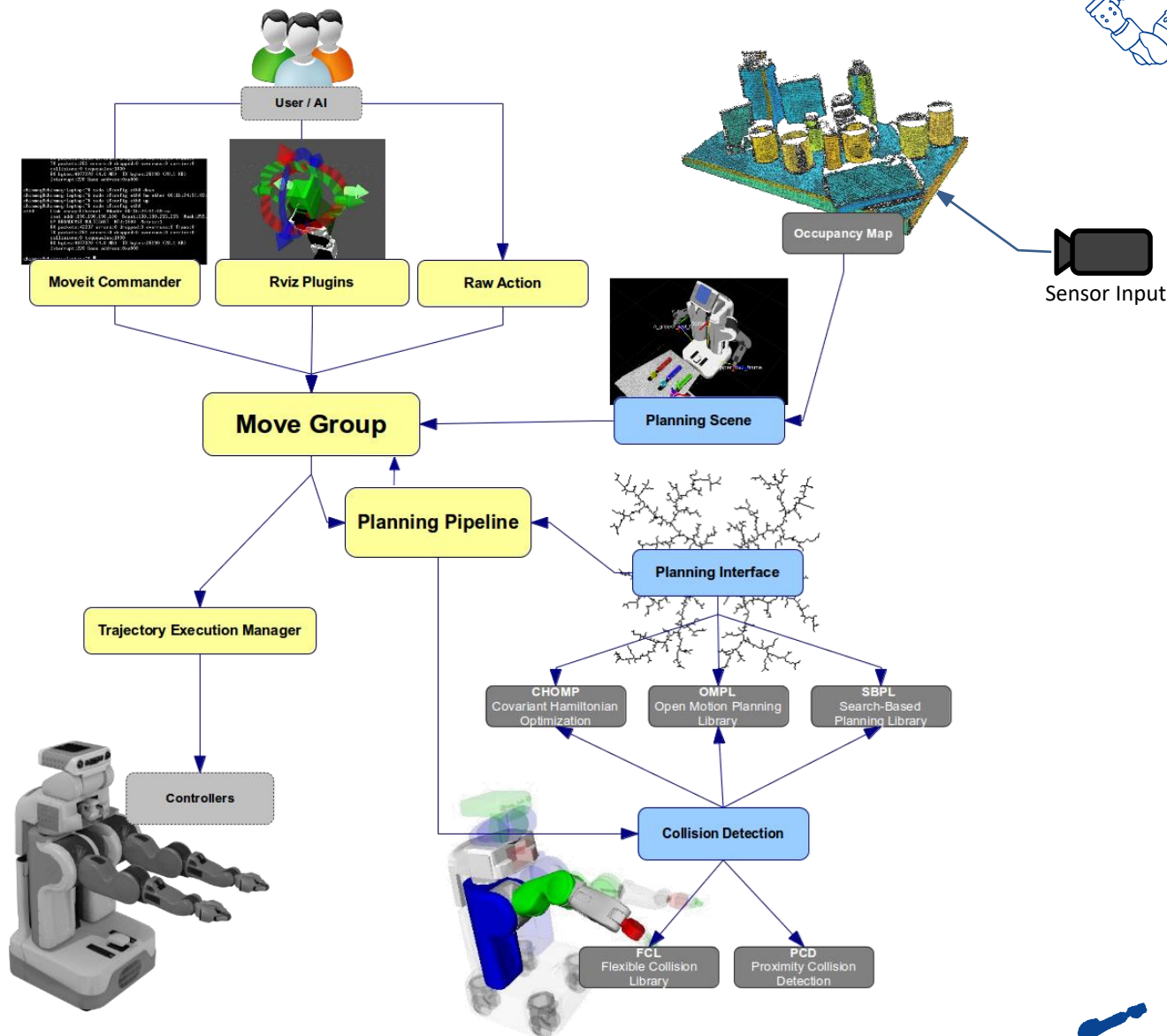


Motion Planning Components



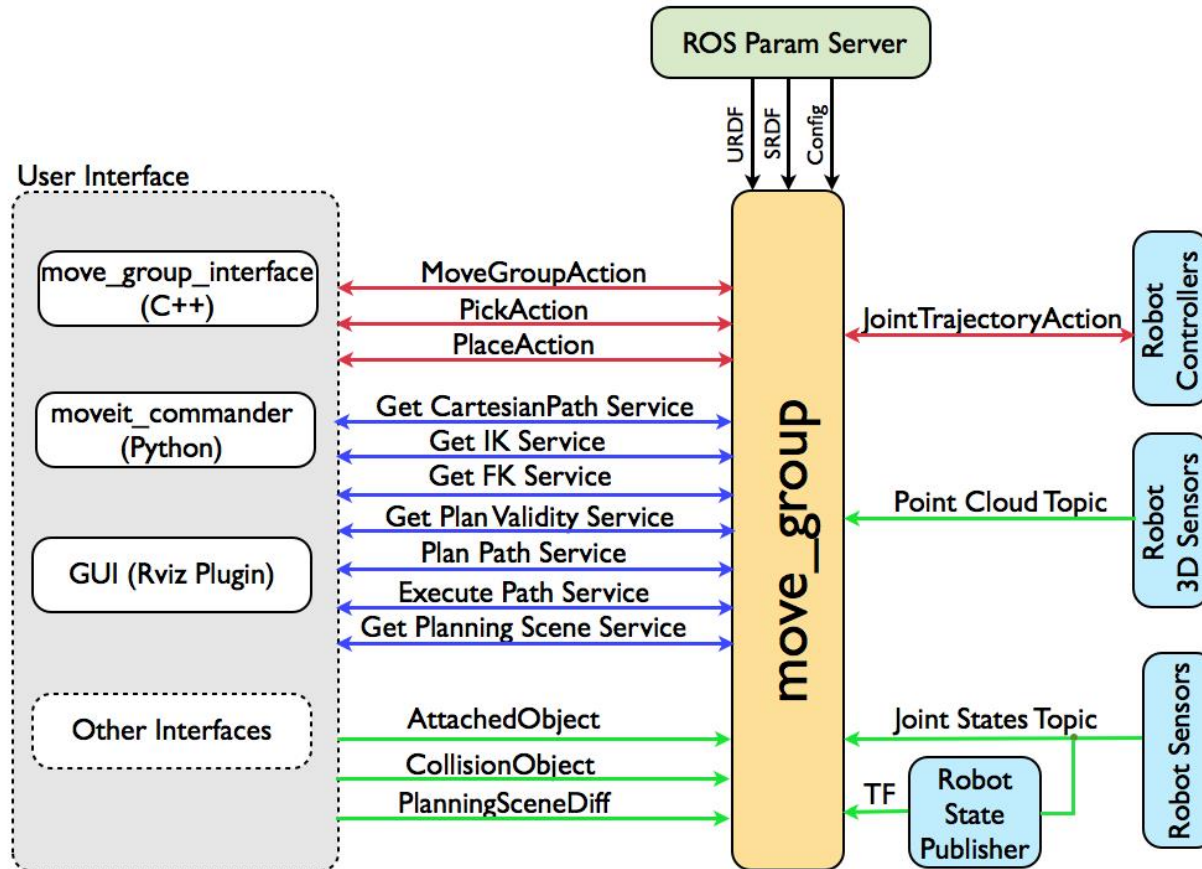


MoveIt Components





MoveIt Nodes





- Movelt! Package
 - Includes all required nodes, config, launch files
 - motion planning, filtering, collision detection, etc.
 - Is unique to each individual robot model
 - includes references to URDF robot data
 - Uses a standard interface to robots
 - publish trajectory, listen to joint angles
 - Can (optionally) include workcell geometry
 - e.g. for collision checking





HowTo: Set Up a New Robot (or workcell)





For each new robot model...

create a new MoveIt! package

- Kinematics
 - Physical configuration, lengths, etc.
- MoveIt! configuration
 - Plugins, default parameter values
 - Self-collision testing
 - Pre-defined poses
- Robot connection
 - FollowJointTrajectory Action name





HowTo:

Set Up a New Robot

1. Create a URDF
2. Create a MoveIt! Package
3. Update MoveIt! Package for ROS-I
4. Test on ROS-I Simulator
5. Test on “Real” Robot

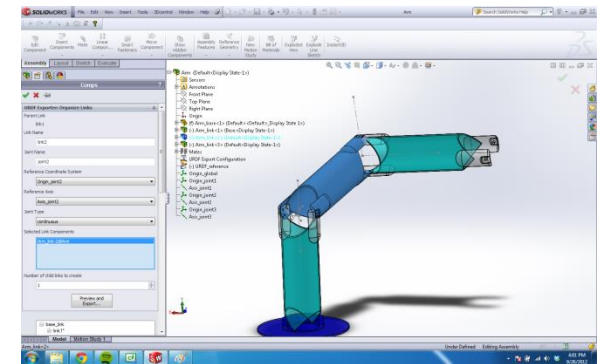




Create a URDF



- Previously covered URDF basics
- Here are some tips:
 - Create from datasheet or use [Solidworks Add-In](#)
 - Double-check joint offsets for accuracy
 - Round near-zero offsets (if appropriate)
 - Use “base_link” and “tool0”
 - Use simplified collision models
 - convex-hull or primitives





Verify the URDF



- It is **critical** to verify that your URDF matches the physical robot
 - Each joint moves as expected
 - Joint-coupling issues are identified
 - Min/max joint limits
 - Joint directions (pos/neg)
 - Correct zero-position, etc.
 - Check forward kinematics





Create a MoveIt! Package



- Use the MoveIt! Setup Assistant
 - Can create a new package or edit an existing one

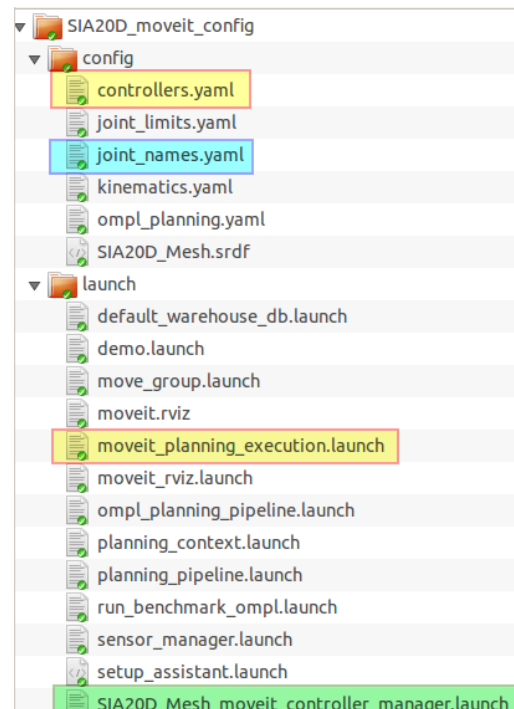




Update MoveIt! Package



- Setup Assistant generates a *generic* package
 - Missing config. data to connect to a specific robot
 - ROS-I robots use a *standard* interface

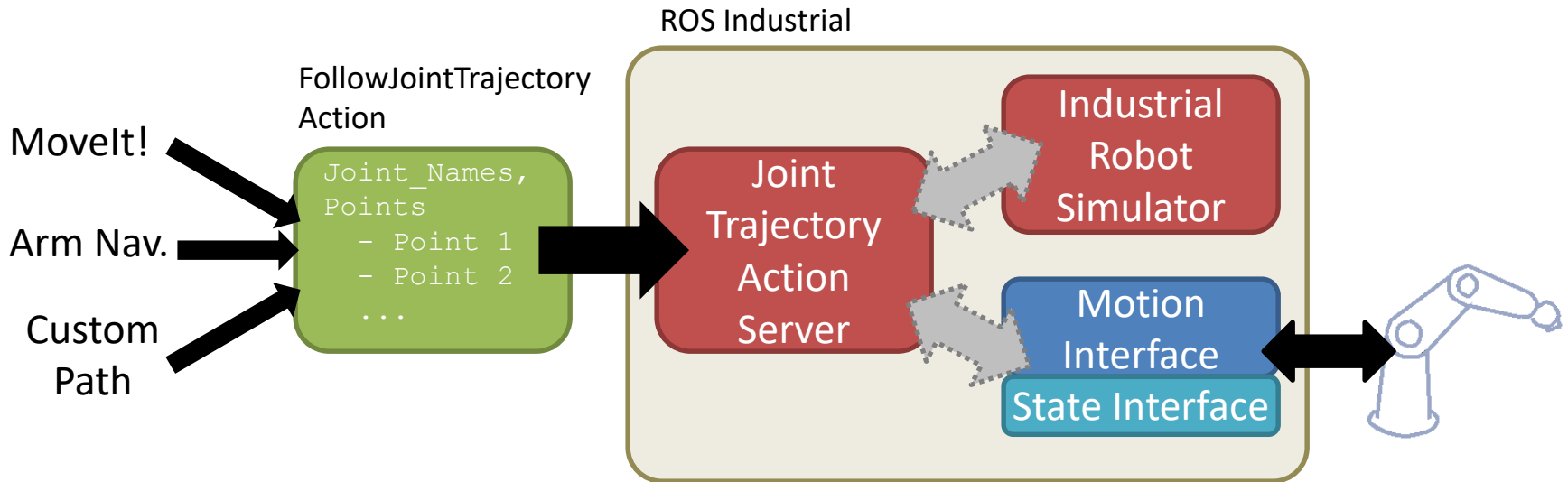




Update MoveIt! Package



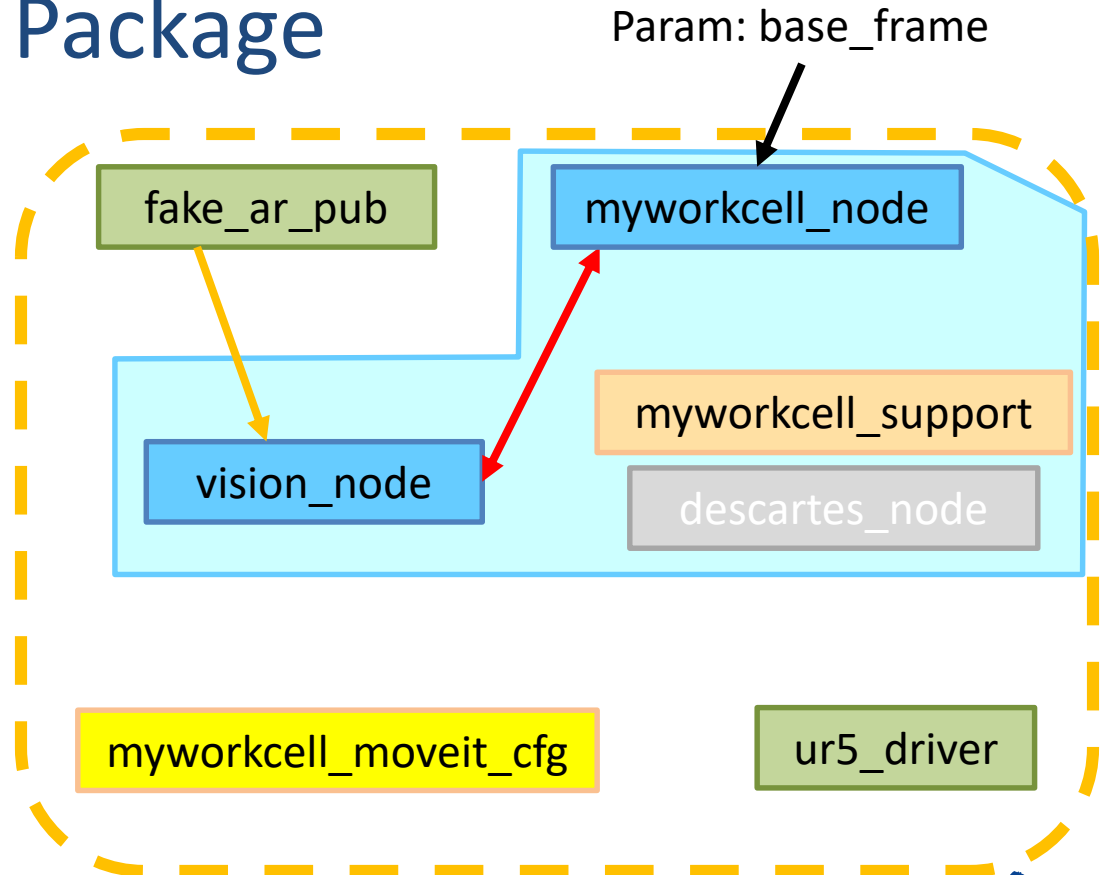
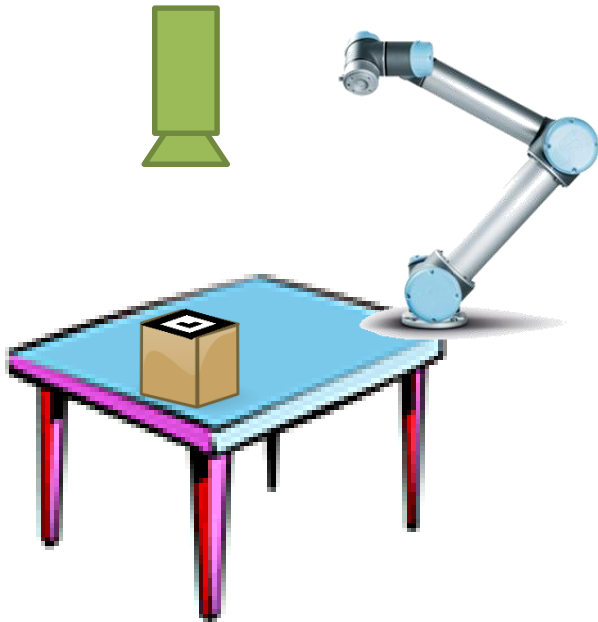
- We'll generate launch files to run both:
 - **simulated** ROS-I robot
 - **real** robot-controller interface





Exercise 3.3

Exercise 3.3: Create a MoveIt! Package





HowTo:

Motion Planning using MoveIt!

1. Motion Planning using RViz
2. Motion Planning using C++





Display Options

The screenshot shows the 'Displays' panel in RViz. It contains two main sections: 'Scene Robot' and 'Planning Request'. The 'Scene Robot' section includes options for 'Robot Root Link' (base_link), 'Show Scene Robot' (checked), 'Robot Alpha' (0.5), and 'Attached Body Color' (150; 50; 150). The 'Planning Request' section includes options for 'Planning Group' (manipulator), 'Show Workspace' (unchecked), 'Query Start State' (unchecked), 'Query Goal State' (checked), 'Interactive Marker Size' (0), 'Start State Color' (0; 255; 0), 'Start State Alpha' (1), 'Goal State Color' (250; 128; 0), 'Goal State Alpha' (1), and 'Colliding Link Color' (255; 0; 0).

Category	Option	Value
Scene Robot	Robot Root Link	base_link
	Show Scene Robot	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Robot Alpha	0.5
	Attached Body Color	150; 50; 150
Planning Request	Planning Group	manipulator
	Show Workspace	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Query Start State	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Query Goal State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Interactive Marker Size	0
	Start State Color	0; 255; 0
	Start State Alpha	1
	Goal State Color	250; 128; 0
Goal State Alpha	1	
Colliding Link Color	255; 0; 0	



Planning Options

Motion Planning

Context Planning Scene Objects Stored Scenes Stored States

Commands

Plan

Execute

Plan and Execute

Query

Select Start State:

Select Goal State:

<random>

Udate

Options

Planning Time (s): 5.00

☐ Allow Replanning

☐ Allow Sensor Positioning

Path Constraints:

None

Goal Tolerance: 0.00

Workspace

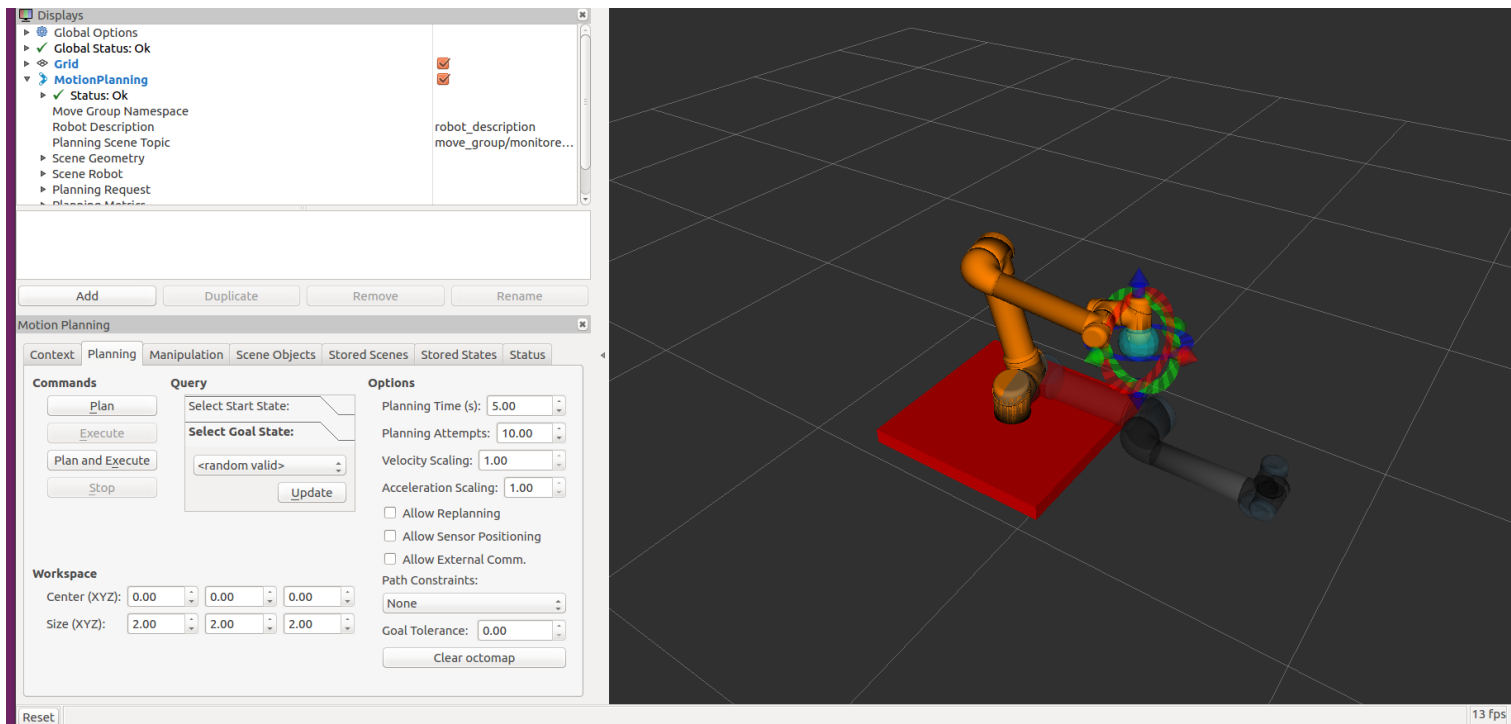
Center (XYZ): 0.00 0.00 0.00

Size (XYZ): 2.00 2.00 2.00



Exercise 3.4

Exercise 3.4: Motion Planning using RViz





Review



ROS

- URDF
- MoveIt
- Path Planners
- RViz Planning

ROS-Industrial

- Robot Drivers
- Path Planners

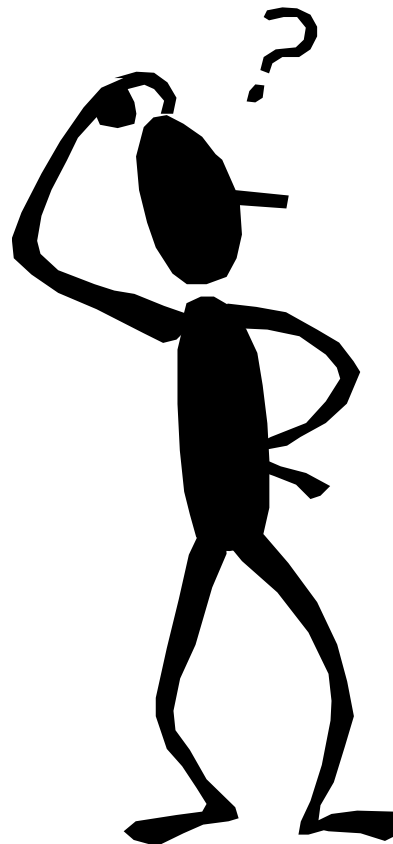




Questions?



- ROS-I Architecture
- Setup Assistant
- Robot Launch Files
- RViz Planning
- C++ Planning





Contact Info.



Jeremy Zoss

SwRI

9503 W. Commerce
San Antonio, TX 78227
USA

Phone: 210-522-3089
Email: jzoss@swri.org



Levi Armstrong

SwRI

9503 W. Commerce
San Antonio, TX 78227
USA

Phone: 210-522-3801
Email: levi.armstrong@swri.org



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