

1. Introduction

Official documentation

- Packages are container for ROS code.
- They facilitate to release certain code work and allow others to build and use it easily
- Packages creation in ROS uses Ament as its build system and Colcon as its build tool. But one can create a package using either CMake or Python.

2. Creation

2.1 Independent Python or C++ package

1. Move to the src directory of the workspace
2. Create the package indicating the build type for python, the name and the dependencies

```
ros2 pkg create <my_package> --build-type ament_<> --  
dependencies <> <>
```

| Option | Python | C++ |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| build | ament_python | ament_cmake |
| dependencies | rclpy | rclcpp |

3. Build the package

```
colcon build  
colcon build --packages-select <my_package>
```

- Important files are automatically created:
 - For Python:
 - setup.py: Drives the compilation process indicating what files, where to install, how to link dependencies, etc.
 - setup.cfg: Indicates where the scripts will be installed.
 - package.xml (manifesto): Metadata to indicate the package dependencies and developer information
 - For C++:
 - CMakeLists: Compilation file
 - package.xml (manifesto): Metadata to indicate the package dependencies and developer information

4. Customize the manifesto and compilation files following the statements

- description
- version
- maintainer
- license: As option use Apache License 2.0
- Dependencies

2.3 Both C++ and Python

- Non-official documentation
- Create an standard C++ package
- For C++ work normally
- For Python:
 1. Create an import module `__init__.py`. Create it inside the same folder as the custom modules is recommended.
 2. When creating a node **add the shebang** line and make **executable**:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
```

3. Configure the package file, adding the **client and compilation** dependencies for C++ and Python.
4. Configure the compilation file: