MRSD Programming Familiarization Part 2

1.) Services in ROS act as a way to give information upon request. Instead of publishing continuously and subscribing, services are a request and reply system that only provides information when needed. This is done by a pair of request and reply messages and a service client which sends a request message to the request and returns the reply.

2.)
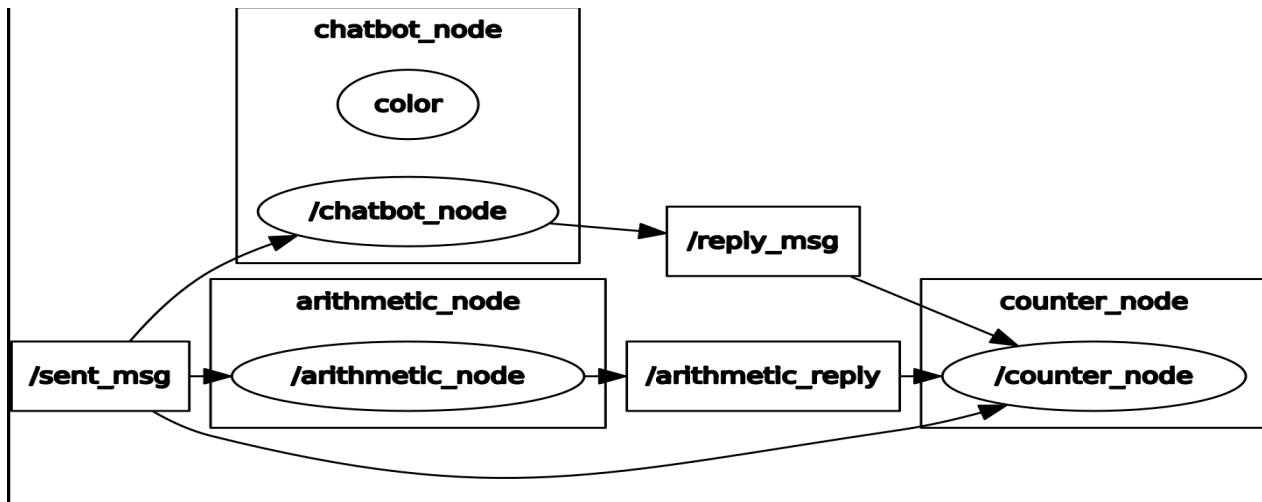
3.)
Yes, I think this assignment was helpful for starting ROS. There were some parts that were not clearly described though, and some specifics that were left out that caused the whole program to not run (namely some CMake commands). This was especially difficult for counter_node CMake which did not tell us to add the generate_messages command and the params in the counter_node which did not tell us to add them to the launch file. Most of the specifics were spread by word of mouth after asking TAs, and a lot of time could have been saved with a little more information.

4.)
Yes, the difficulty was manageable for the given time frame.