

## **LAB02 : CONTROL SITL PyMavLink**

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### **1) OBJECTIVE OF PYMAVLINK**

Control a simulated drone in SITL step by step using PyMavLink.

Students will learn to :

- Connect to SITL.
- Read basic sensors (position and altitude)
- Send the drone to a specific position
- Arm the drone
- Perform a takeoff
- Monitor the battery status
- Implement an automatic safety landing based on battery charge.

### **2) STEP 1 : CONNECT TO SITL**

First, establish a connection to the SITL simulator on the appropriate port

```
Unset
from pymavlink import mavutil

# Connect to SITL

connection = mavutil.mavlink_connection('udp:127.0.0.1:14550')
connection.wait_heartbeat() # Wait for the first heartbeat to confirm
connection
print("Connected to SITL.")
```

### **3) STEP 2 : READ BASIC SENSORS**

Retrieve basic information from the drone's sensors, such as global position and relative altitude.

```
Unset
def read_sensors(connection):
    msg = connection.recv_match(type='GLOBAL_POSITION_INT', blocking=True)
```

```

    if msg:
        latitude = msg.lat / 1e7 # Convert to degrees
        longitude = msg.lon / 1e7 # Convert to degrees
        altitude = msg.relative_alt / 1000.0 # Convert to meters
        print(f"Position: Lat={latitude}, Lon={longitude}, Alt={altitude}
m")
    else:
        print("Failed to read sensor data.")

# Call the function
read_sensors(connection)

```

#### 4) **STEP 3 : ARM THE DRONE**

The drone must be armed before flight.

```

Unset
def arm_vehicle(connection):
    connection.mav.command_long_send(
        connection.target_system,
        connection.target_component,
        mavutil.mavlink.MAV_CMD_COMPONENT_ARM_DISARM,
        0, # Confirmation
        1, # Arm
        0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
    )
    print("Drone armed.")

# Arm the drone
arm_vehicle(connection)

```

#### 5) **STEP 4 : PERFORM A TAKEOFF**

Command the drone to take off to a safe altitude

```

Unset
def takeoff(connection, altitude):
    connection.mav.command_long_send(
        connection.target_system,
        connection.target_component,
        mavutil.mavlink.MAV_CMD_NAV_TAKEOFF,
        0, # Confirmation

```

```

        0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, altitude # Desired altitude
    )
    print(f"Taking off to {altitude} meters.")

# Take off to 10 meters
takeoff(connection, 10)
time.sleep(15)

```

## 6) STEP 5 : SEND THE DRONE TO A SPECIFIC POSITION

Define a target position with latitude, longitude, and altitude. The drone must be in GUIDED mode to accept this command.

```

Unset
def set_mode(connection, mode):
    connection.set_mode(mode)
    print(f"Mode changed to {mode}.")

def go_to_position(connection, lat, lon, alt):
    connection.mav.set_position_target_global_int_send(
        0, # Timestamp
        connection.target_system,
        connection.target_component,
        mavutil.mavlink.MAV_FRAME_GLOBAL_RELATIVE_ALT,
        0b110111111000, # Ignore velocity and acceleration
        int(lat * 1e7), # Latitude as integer
        int(lon * 1e7), # Longitude as integer
        alt, # Desired altitude
        0, 0, 0, # Velocities
        0, 0, 0, # Accelerations
        0, 0 # Yaw and Yaw rate
    )
    print(f"Moving drone to Lat? {lat}, Long={lon}, Alt={alt} m")

set_mode(connection, 'GUIDED')

# Take off to 10 meters
takeoff(connection, 10)
time.sleep(15)

# Change to GUIDED mode and move the drone

go_to_position(connection, 37.7749, -122.4194, 10) #Example coordinates

```

## 7) STEP 6 : MONITOR BATTERY STATUS

Define a target position with latitude, longitude, and altitude. The drone must be in GUIDED mode to accept this command.

```
Unset
def read_battery_status(connection):
    msg = connection.recv_match(type='BATTERY_STATUS', blocking=True,
    timeout=5)
    if msg :
        voltage = msg.voltages[0] / 1000.0 # Convert mV to V
        current = msg.current_battery / 100.0 # Convert cA to A
        remaining = msg.battery_remaining # Remaining battery percentage
        print(f"Battery: {voltage:.2f} V, Current: {current:.2f} A,
    Remaining: {remaining}%")
        return remaining
    else:
        print("Failed to get battery status.")
        return None

# Read battery status
read_battery_status(connection)
```

## 8) STEP 7 : IMPLEMENT AUTOMATIC SAFETY LANDING

If the battery falls below 20% (in my case 50), perform an emergency landing.

```
Unset
def land_vehicle(connection):
    connection.mav.command_long_send(
        connection.target_system,
        connection.target_component,
        mavutil.mavlink.MAV_CMD_NAV_LAND,
        0,
        0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
    )
    print("Landing command sent.")

# Monitor battery and land if necessary
while True:
    battery_remaining = read_battery_status(connection)
    if battery_remaining is not None and battery_remaining <= 50:
        print("Low battery! Initiating emergency landing.")
        land_vehicle(connection)
        break
    time.sleep(5) # Check every 5 seconds
```

## 9) CÓDIGO COMPLETO

```
Unset
from pymavlink import mavutil
import time

def read_sensors(connection):
    msg = connection.recv_match(type='GLOBAL_POSITION_INT', blocking=True)
    if msg:
        latitude = msg.lat / 1e7 # Convert to degrees
        longitude = msg.lon / 1e7 # Convert to degrees
        altitude = msg.relative_alt / 1000.0 # Convert to meters
        print(f"Position: Lat={latitude}, Lon={longitude}, Alt={altitude}
m")
    else:
        print("Failed to read sensor data.")

def arm_vehicle(connection):
    connection.mav.command_long_send(
        connection.target_system,
        connection.target_component,
        mavutil.mavlink.MAV_CMD_COMPONENT_ARM_DISARM,
        0, # Confirmation
        1, # Arm
        0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
    )
    print("Drone armed.")

def takeoff(connection, altitude):
    connection.mav.command_long_send(
        connection.target_system,
        connection.target_component,
        mavutil.mavlink.MAV_CMD_NAV_TAKEOFF,
        0, # Confirmation
        0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, altitude # Desired altitude
    )
    print(f"Taking off to {altitude} meters.")

def set_mode(connection, mode):
    connection.set_mode(mode)
    print(f"Mode changed to {mode}.")

def go_to_position(connection, lat, lon, alt):
    connection.mav.set_position_target_global_int_send(
        0, # Timestamp
        connection.target_system,
        connection.target_component,
        mavutil.mavlink.MAV_FRAME_GLOBAL_RELATIVE_ALT,
```

```

        0b110111111000, # Ignore velocity and acceleration
        int(lat * 1e7), # Latitude as integer
        int(lon * 1e7), # Longitude as integer
        alt, # Desired altitude
        0, 0, 0, # Velocities
        0, 0, 0, # Accelerations
        0, 0 # Yaw and Yaw rate
    )
    print(f"Moving drone to Lat? {lat}, Long={lon}, Alt={alt} m")

def read_battery_status(connection):
    msg = connection.recv_match(type='BATTERY_STATUS', blocking=True,
                                timeout=5)
    if msg :
        voltage = msg.voltages[0] / 1000.0 # Convert mV to V
        current = msg.current_battery / 100.0 # Convert cA to A
        remaining = msg.battery_remaining # Remaining battery percentage
        print(f"Battery: {voltage:.2f} V, Current: {current:.2f} A,
Remaining: {remaining}%")
        return remaining
    else:
        print("Failed to get battery status.")
        return None

def land_vehicle(connection):
    connection.mav.command_long_send(
        connection.target_system,
        connection.target_component,
        mavutil.mavlink.MAV_CMD_NAV_LAND,
        0,
        0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
    )
    print("Landing command sent.")

# Connect to SITL
connection = mavutil.mavlink_connection('udp:127.0.0.1:14550')
connection.wait_heartbeat() # Wait for the first heartbeat to confirm
connection
print("Connected to SITL.")

# Call the function
read_sensors(connection)

# Arm the drone
arm_vehicle(connection)

set_mode(connection, 'GUIDED')
```

```

# Take off to 10 meters
takeoff(connection, 10)
time.sleep(15)

# Change to GUIDED mode and move the drone

go_to_position(connection, 37.7749, -122.4194, 10) #Example coordinates

# Read battery status
read_battery_status(connection)

# Monitor battery and land if necessary
while True:
    battery_remaining = read_battery_status(connection)
    if battery_remaining is not None and battery_remaining <= 50:
        print("Low battery! Initiating emergency landing.")
        land_vehicle(connection)
        break
    time.sleep(5) # Check every 5 seconds

```

