Portfolio

PAL Robotics

I begin working on the firmware for the fresh new roboot *Kangaroo*. I study the hardware platform, main SoC capabilities and then a master plan was designed.







figure 2: Fresh new robot from PAL Robotics *Kangaroo*. It has a new mechanics and extremely powerful electronics. I work on the motors control loop, bootloaders and software in general running on it.

During my job at PAL Robotics I mainly work as a bootloader and control loops firmware design and developer engineer. The actual core is in fact a 5x core: 1xARM Cortex + 2x C2000 architecture + 2 small but fast cores with custom RISC architecture.

I've actually work on topics like:

- Design the main architecture of the bootloader taking in account the restricted resources
- Design the IPC for inter processors communication
- o Implement a baremetal framework with full featured CLI to interact with the bootloader
- \circ Implement a realtime time and frequency visualizer over EtherCAT and UART using matplotlib + numpy
- Implement a persistent telemetry over EtherCAT and UART with custom Json lib converter to a bootloader <-> CLI <-> python -> influxDB <- Grafana
- "Three cores one code" pattern to reuse the same files for each core with minor changes related to hardware, architecture and memory layout multiplexed using makefiles and #ifdef's
- Implement a hex files receiver on C2000 core and a hex file sender in python both from scratch.
- Using CLI + file sender + hex file parser + flash_burn/ram API, the firmware update for any/all cores is just a text file script, and this is one of the more powerful feature achieved until now.
- \circ I began the implementation of a CI/CD and runners over PAL's gitlab server. They already have being using that for software, but not for firmware neither hardware.
- Help my partners with some ideas on how to improve actual servo drive loop and firmware questions in general
- Work with CLI git, push on gitlab servers, Agile environment with weekly reports and meetings.



figure 3: Command line to interact with any core with same interface. Realtime matplotlib visualizer. Python -> influxDB <- Grafana persistent data visualizer.