

Robotics Lab: Homework 1

Building your robot manipulator

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Building your robot manipulator

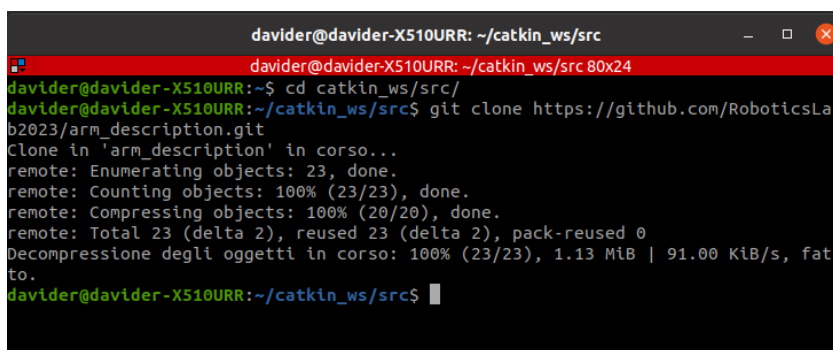
The goal of this homework is to build ROS packages to simulate a robotic manipulator arm into the Gazebo environment.

All the files used in this report are available at the following GitHub link:

https://github.com/rubin-da/HW_1.git

1. Create the description of your robot and visualize it in Rviz

(a) Download the arm_description package from the repo https://github.com/RoboticsLab2023/arm_description.git into your catkin_ws



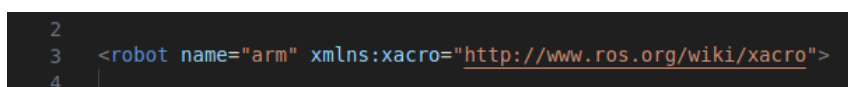
```
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src 80x24
davider@davider-X510URR:~$ cd catkin_ws/src/
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src$ git clone https://github.com/RoboticsLab2023/arm_description.git
Clone in 'arm_description' in corso...
remote: Enumerating objects: 23, done.
remote: Counting objects: 100% (23/23), done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (20/20), done.
remote: Total 23 (delta 2), reused 23 (delta 2), pack-reused 0
Decompression degli oggetti in corso: 100% (23/23), 1.13 MiB | 91.00 KiB/s, fatto.
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src$
```

Note: Next, I placed the packages in a folder named arm

(b) Within the package create a launch folder containing a launch file named display.launch that loads the URDF as a robot_description ROS param and starts the robot_state_publisher node, the joint_state_publisher node, and the rviz node. Launch the file using roslaunch. Note: To visualize your robot in rviz you have to change the Fixed Frame in the lateral bar and add the RobotModel plugin interface. Optional: save a .rviz configuration file, that automatically loads the RobotModel plugin by default, and give it as an argument to your node in the display.launch file.

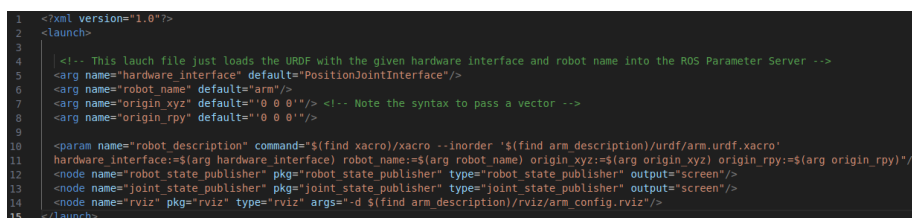
I created the xacro file arm.urdf.xacro adding the string:

xmlns:xacro="http://www.ros.org/wiki/xacro" within the <robot> tag to the arm.urdf file



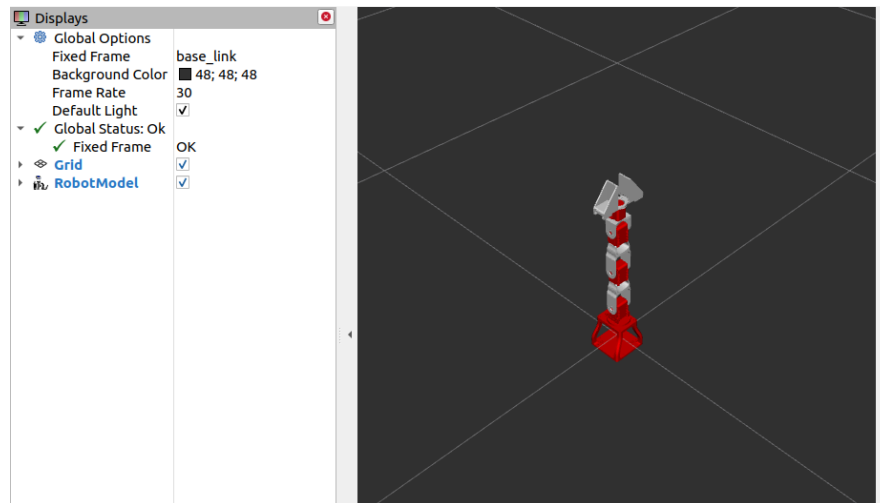
```
2
3 <robot name="arm" xmlns:xacro="http://www.ros.org/wiki/xacro">
4
```

I created a launch folder, in the arm_description package, containing the following launch file display.launch



```
1 <?xml version="1.0"?>
2 <launch>
3
4   <!-- This launch file just loads the URDF with the given hardware interface and robot name into the ROS Parameter Server -->
5   <arg name="hardware_interface" default="PositionJointInterface"/>
6   <arg name="robot_name" default="arm"/>
7   <arg name="origin_xyz" default="0 0 0"/> <!-- Note the syntax to pass a vector -->
8   <arg name="origin_rpy" default="0 0 0"/>
9
10  <param name="robot_description" command="$(find xacro)/xacro --inorder $(find arm_description)/urdf/arm.urdf.xacro"
11  hardware_interface=$(arg hardware_interface) robot_name=$(arg robot_name) origin_xyz=$(arg origin_xyz) origin_rpy=$(arg origin_rpy)" />
12  <node name="robot_state_publisher" pkg="robot_state_publisher" type="robot_state_publisher" output="screen"/>
13  <node name="joint_state_publisher" pkg="joint_state_publisher" type="joint_state_publisher" output="screen"/>
14  <node name="rviz" pkg="rviz" type="rviz" args="-d $(find arm_description)/rviz/arm_config.rviz"/>
15 </launch>
```

This file load the urdf.xacro file as a robot_description ROS param and starts the robot_state_publisher node, the joint_state_publisher node and the rviz node. Then I launched this file and I saved the rviz configuration in a file named arm_config.rviz that I gived as an argument to the rviz node.

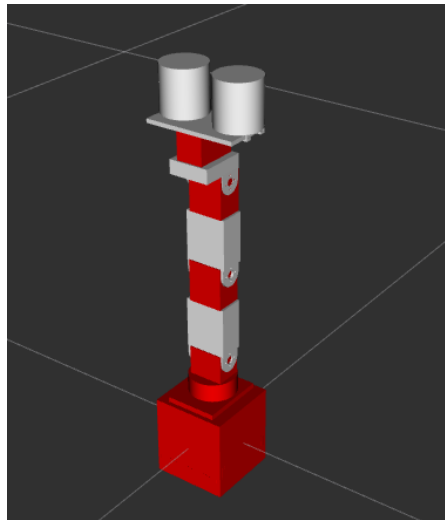


(c) Substitute the collision meshes of your URDF with primitive shapes. Use geometries of reasonable size approximating the links. Hint: Enable collision visualization in rviz (go to the lateral bar > Robot model > Collision Enabled) to adjust the collision meshes size

In the URDF file I changed the collision meshes substituting them with the <box> and <cylinder> tags and I chose the right dimensions of the shapes for every link. For example, for the base_link I wrote:

```
<link name="base_link">
  <visual>
    <geometry>
      <mesh filename="package://arm_description/meshes/base_link.stl" scale="0.001 0.001 0.001"/>
    </geometry>
    <origin rpy="0 0 0" xyz="0 0 0"/>
  </visual>
  <collision>
    <geometry>
      <box size="0.09 0.09 0.0975"/>
    </geometry>
    <origin rpy="0 0 0" xyz="0 0 0"/>
  </collision>
  <inertial>
    <mass value="0.1"/>
    <inertia ixx="1.06682889e+08" ixy="0.0" ixz="0.0" iyy="9.92165844e+07" iyz="0.0" izz="1.26939175e+08"/>
  </inertial>
</link>
```

With a final result as follow:



(d) Create a file named `arm.gazebo.xacro` within your package, define a `xacro:macro` inside your file containing all the tags you find within your `arm.urdf` and import it in your URDF using `xacro:include`. Remember to rename your URDF file to `arm.urdf.xacro`, add the string `xmlns:xacro="http://www.ros.org/wiki/xacro"` within the tag, and load the URDF in your launch file using the `xacro` routine

I have already renamed the `arm.urdf` file in `arm.urdf.xacro` file in the point a.

I created an `arm.gazebo.xacro` file containing all the `<gazebo>` tags of the URDF file:

```
1  <?xml version="1.0"?>
2
3  <robot xmlns:xacro="http://www.ros.org/wiki/xacro">
4    <xacro:macro name="arm_gazebo" params="robot_name">
5
6      <gazebo reference="f4">
7        <material>Gazebo/Red</material>
8      </gazebo>
9
10     <gazebo reference="f5">
11       <material>Gazebo/Red</material>
12     </gazebo>
13
14     <gazebo reference="wrist">
15       <material>Gazebo/Red</material>
16     </gazebo>
17
18     <gazebo reference="crawler_base">
19       <material>Gazebo/Red</material>
20     </gazebo>
21
22     <gazebo reference="base_link">
23       <material>Gazebo/Red</material>
24     </gazebo>
25
26     <gazebo reference="base_turn">
27       <material>Gazebo/Red</material>
28     </gazebo>
```

Then I included this file in the arm.urdf.xacro file:

```
<!-- Include arm.gazebo.xacro -->  
<xacro:include filename="$(find arm_description)/urdf/arm.gazebo.xacro"/>
```

and in the same file I used this code string:

```
<xacro:arm_gazebo robot_name="arm"/>
```

2. Add transmission and controllers to your robot and spawn it in Gazebo

(a) Create a package named `arm_gazebo`

```
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm 83x24
davider@davider-X510URR:~$ cd catkin_ws/src/arm/
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm$ catkin_create_pkg arm_gazebo
Created file arm_gazebo/package.xml
Created file arm_gazebo/CMakeLists.txt
Successfully created files in /home/davider/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo. Please add
just the values in package.xml.
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm$
```

(b) Within this package create a launch folder containing a `arm_world.launch` file

```
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo/launch
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo/launch 86x24
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm$ cd arm_gazebo/
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo$ mkdir launch
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo$ cd launch/
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo/launch$ touch arm_world.launch
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo/launch$
```

(c) Fill this launch file with commands that load the URDF into the ROS Parameter Server and spawn your robot using the `spawn_model` node. Hint: follow the `iiwa_world.launch` example from the package `iiwa_stack`: https://github.com/IFL-CAMP/iiwa_stack/tree/master. Launch the `arm_world.launch` file to visualize the robot in Gazebo

In order to fill the `arm_world.launch` file I created a `.world` file within a `worlds` folder and the `arm_upload.launch` file similar to the `display.launch` without the three nodes that I previously created. This file is necessary to load the URDF file without launch the nodes.

`arm.world`:

```
1  <?xml version="1.0" ?>
2  <sdf version="1.4">
3    <!-- We use a custom world for the arm so that the camera angle is launched correctly. -->
4    <!-- One can change this world to his needs or use another one. -->
5
6    <world name="default">
7
8      <include>
9        <uri>model://ground_plane</uri>
10      </include>
11
12      <!-- Global light source -->
13      <include>
14        <uri>model://sun</uri>
15      </include>
16
17      <physics name="default_physics" default="0" type="ode">
18        <max_step_size>0.01</max_step_size>
19        <real_time_factor>1</real_time_factor>
20        <real_time_update_rate>100</real_time_update_rate>
21        <ode>
22          <solver>
23            <type>quick</type>
24            <iters>50</iters>
25            <sor>1.0</sor> <!-- Important, see issue #2209 -->
26            <use_dynamic_moi_rescaling>false</use_dynamic_moi_rescaling>
27          </solver>
28        </ode>
29      </physics>
30
31      <!-- Focus camera -->
32      <gui fullscreen="0">
33        <camera name="user camera">
34          <pose>4.927360 -4.376610 3.740080 0.000000 0.275643 2.356190</pose>
35          <view_controller>orbit</view_controller>
36        </camera>
37      </gui>
38    </world>
39  </sdf>
```

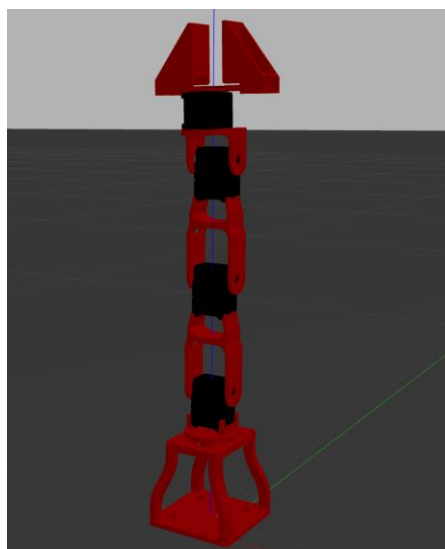
arm_upload.launch:

```
1 <?xml version="1.0"?>
2 <launch>
3
4 <!-- This launch file just loads the URDF with the given hardware interface and robot name into the ROS Parameter Server -->
5 <arg name="hardware_interface" default="PositionJointInterface"/>
6 <arg name="robot_name" default="arm"/>
7 <arg name="origin_xyz" default="0 0 0"/> <!-- Note the syntax to pass a vector -->
8 <arg name="origin_rpy" default="0 0 0"/>
9
10 <param name="robot_description" command="$(find xacro)/xacro --inorder $(find arm_description)/urdf/arm.urdf.xacro'
11 hardware_interface:=$(arg hardware_interface) robot_name:=$(arg robot_name) origin_xyz:=$(arg origin_xyz) origin_rpy:=$(arg origin_rpy)"/>
12 </launch>
```

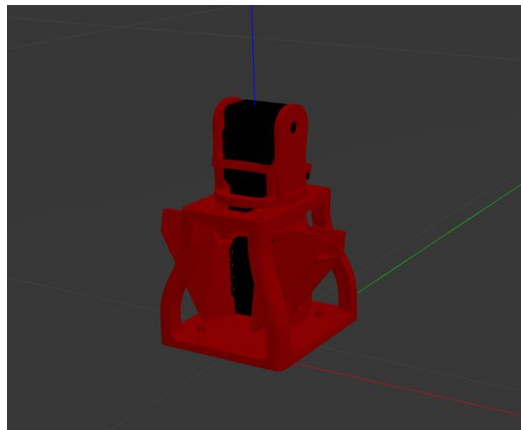
arm_world.launch:

```
1 <?xml version="1.0"?>
2 <launch>
3
4
5 <!-- These are the arguments you can pass this launch file, for example paused:=true -->
6 <arg name="paused" default="false"/>
7 <arg name="use_sim_time" default="true"/>
8 <arg name="gui" default="true"/>
9 <arg name="headless" default="false"/>
10 <arg name="debug" default="false"/>
11 <arg name="hardware_interface" default="PositionJointInterface"/>
12 <arg name="robot_name" default="arm" />
13 <arg name="model" default="arm"/>
14
15 <!-- We resume the logic in empty_world.launch, changing only the name of the world to be launched -->
16 <include file="$(find gazebo_ros)/launch/empty_world.launch">
17   <arg name="world_name" value="$(find arm_gazebo)/worlds/arm.world"/>
18   <arg name="debug" value="$(arg debug)" />
19   <arg name="gui" value="$(arg gui)" />
20   <arg name="paused" value="$(arg paused)" />
21   <arg name="use_sim_time" value="$(arg use_sim_time)" />
22   <arg name="headless" value="$(arg headless)" />
23 </include>
24
25 <!-- Load the URDF with the given hardware interface into the ROS Parameter Server -->
26 <include file="$(find arm_description)/launch/$(arg model)_upload.launch">
27   <arg name="hardware_interface" value="$(arg hardware_interface)" />
28   <arg name="robot_name" value="$(arg robot_name)" />
29 </include>
30
31
32 <!-- Run a python script to send a service call to gazebo_ros to spawn a URDF robot -->
33 <node name="spawn_model" pkg="gazebo_ros" type="spawn_model" respawn="false" output="screen"
34   args="-urdf -model arm -param robot_description"/>
35
36
37 </launch>
```

I launched the arm_world.launch file to visualize the robot in Gazebo:



After few minutes the robot collapsed on itself:



(d) Now add a PositionJointInterface as hardware interface to your robot: create a `arm.transmission.xacro` file into your `arm_description/urdf` folder containing a `xacro:macro` with the hardware interface and load it into your `arm.urdf.xacro` file using `xacro:include`. Launch the file

I created the `arm.transmission.xacro` file:

```
1 <?xml version="1.0"?>
2 <robot xmlns:xacro="http://www.ros.org/wiki/xacro">
3   <xacro:macro name="arm_transmission" params="hardware_interface">
4
5     <transmission name="$(arg robot_name)_tran_1">
6       <robotNamespace>/$(arg robot_name)</robotNamespace>
7       <type>transmission_interface/SimpleTransmission</type>
8       <joint name="j0">
9         <hardwareInterface>hardware_interface/$(arg hardware_interface)</hardwareInterface>
10      </joint>
11      <actuator name="$(arg robot_name)_motor_1">
12        <hardwareInterface>hardware_interface/$(arg hardware_interface)</hardwareInterface>
13        <mechanicalReduction>1</mechanicalReduction>
14      </actuator>
15    </transmission>
16
17    <transmission name="$(arg robot_name)_tran_2">
18      <robotNamespace>/$(arg robot_name)</robotNamespace>
19      <type>transmission_interface/SimpleTransmission</type>
20      <joint name="j1">
21        <hardwareInterface>hardware_interface/$(arg hardware_interface)</hardwareInterface>
22      </joint>
23      <actuator name="$(arg robot_name)_motor_2">
24        <hardwareInterface>hardware_interface/$(arg hardware_interface)</hardwareInterface>
25        <mechanicalReduction>1</mechanicalReduction>
26      </actuator>
27    </transmission>
28
29    <transmission name="$(arg robot_name)_tran_3">
30      <robotNamespace>/$(arg robot_name)</robotNamespace>
31      <type>transmission_interface/SimpleTransmission</type>
32      <joint name="j2">
33        <hardwareInterface>hardware_interface/$(arg hardware_interface)</hardwareInterface>
34      </joint>
35      <actuator name="$(arg robot_name)_motor_3">
36        <hardwareInterface>hardware_interface/$(arg hardware_interface)</hardwareInterface>
37        <mechanicalReduction>1</mechanicalReduction>
38      </actuator>
39    </transmission>
40
41    <transmission name="$(arg robot_name)_tran_4">
42      <robotNamespace>/$(arg robot_name)</robotNamespace>
43      <type>transmission_interface/SimpleTransmission</type>
44      <joint name="j3">
45        <hardwareInterface>hardware_interface/$(arg hardware_interface)</hardwareInterface>
46      </joint>
47      <actuator name="$(arg robot_name)_motor_4">
48        <hardwareInterface>hardware_interface/$(arg hardware_interface)</hardwareInterface>
49        <mechanicalReduction>1</mechanicalReduction>
50      </actuator>
51    </transmission>
52  </xacro:macro>
53 </robot>
```


Then I included this file in the arm.urdf.xacro file:

```
<!--Include arm.transmission.xacro -->
<xacro:include filename="$(find arm_description)/urdf/arm.transmission.xacro"/>
```

and in the same file I added the following line:

```
<xacro:arm_transmission hardware_interface="PositionJointInterface"/>
```

(e) Add joint position controllers to your robot: create a `arm_control` package with a `arm_control.launch` file inside its launch folder and a `arm_control.yaml` file within its config folder

```
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control/config
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control/config 90x24
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm$ catkin_create_pkg arm_control
Created file arm_control/package.xml
Created file arm_control/CMakeLists.txt
Successfully created files in /home/davider/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control. Please adjust the values in package.xml.
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm$ cd arm_control
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control$ mkdir launch
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control$ mkdir config
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control$ cd launch
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control/launch$ touch arm_control.launch
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control/launch$ cd ..
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control$ cd config/
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control/config$ touch arm_control.yaml
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_control/config$
```

(f) Fill the `arm_control.launch` file with commands that load the joint controller configurations from the `.yaml` file to the parameter server and spawn the controllers using the `controller_manager` package. Hint: follow the `iiwa_control.launch` example from corresponding package

```
1 <?xml version="1.0"?>
2 <launch>
3
4   <!-- Launches the controllers according to the hardware interface selected -->
5   <!-- Everything is spawned under a namespace with the same name as the robot's. -->
6
7   <arg name="hardware_interface" default="PositionJointInterface"/>
8   <arg name="controllers" default="joint_state_controller PositionJointInterface"/>
9   <arg name="robot_name" default="arm" />
10  <arg name="model" default="arm" />
11  <arg name="joint_state_frequency" default="100" />
12  <arg name="robot_state_frequency" default="100" />
13
14  <!-- Loads joint controller configurations from YAML file to parameter server -->
15  <rosparam file="$(find arm_control)/config/arm_control.yaml" command="load" />
16  <param name="$(arg robot_name)/joint_state_controller/publish_rate" value="$(arg joint_state_frequency)" />
17
18  <!-- Loads the controllers -->
19  <node name="controller_spawner" pkg="controller_manager" type="spawner" respawn="false"
20        output="screen" args="$(arg controllers)" />
21
22  <!-- Converts joint states to TF transforms for rviz, etc -->
23  <node name="robot_state_publisher" pkg="robot_state_publisher" type="robot_state_publisher"
24        respawn="false" output="screen">
25    <remap from="/joint_states" to="$(arg robot_name)/joint_states" />
26    <param name="publish_frequency" value="$(arg robot_state_frequency)" />
27  </node>
28
29 </launch>
```

(g) Fill the `arm_control.yaml` adding a `joint_state_controller` and a `JointPositionController` to all the joints

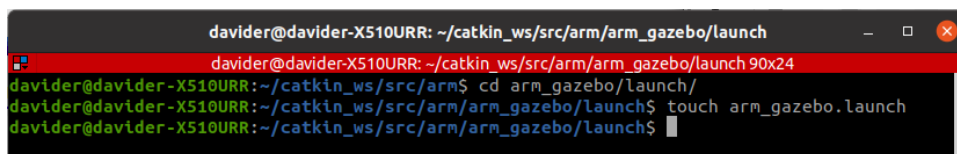
```
1 #arm:
2 # Publish all joint states -----
3 joint_state_controller:
4   type: joint_state_controller/JointStateController
5   publish_rate: 50
```

```

7  # Controllers for singular joint -----
8  #
9  # Effort Position Controllers -----
10
11  # VALUES ARE NOT CORRECT !
12  EffortJointInterface_J1_controller:
13    type: effort_controllers/JointPositionController
14    joint: j0
15    pid: {p: 800.0, i: 100, d: 80.0, i_clamp_min: -10000, i_clamp_max: 10000}
16
17  EffortJointInterface_J2_controller:
18    type: effort_controllers/JointPositionController
19    joint: j1
20    pid: {p: 800.0, i: 1000, d: 100.0, i_clamp_min: -10000, i_clamp_max: 10000}
21
22  EffortJointInterface_J3_controller:
23    type: effort_controllers/JointPositionController
24    joint: j2
25    pid: {p: 800.0, i: 10, d: 5.0, i_clamp_min: -10000, i_clamp_max: 10000}
26
27  EffortJointInterface_J4_controller:
28    type: effort_controllers/JointPositionController
29    joint: j3
30    pid: {p: 800.0, i: 10, d: 80.0, i_clamp_min: -10000, i_clamp_max: 10000}
31
32
33  # Forward Position Controllers -----
34  PositionJointInterface_J1_controller:
35    type: position_controllers/JointPositionController
36    joint: j0
37
38  PositionJointInterface_J2_controller:
39    type: position_controllers/JointPositionController
40    joint: j1
41
42  PositionJointInterface_J3_controller:
43    type: position_controllers/JointPositionController
44    joint: j2
45

```

(h) Create an `arm_gazebo.launch` file into the `launch` folder of the `arm_gazebo` package loading the Gazebo world with `arm_world.launch` and spawning the controllers within `arm_control.launch`. Go to the `arm_description` package and add the `gazebo_ros_control` plugin to your main URDF into the `arm.gazebo.xacro` file. Launch the simulation and check if your controllers are correctly loaded



```

david@dauid-XS10URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo/launch
david@dauid-XS10URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo/launch 90x24
david@dauid-XS10URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm$ cd arm_gazebo/launch/
david@dauid-XS10URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo/launch$ touch arm_gazebo.launch
david@dauid-XS10URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_gazebo/launch$

```

The `arm_gazebo.launch` file is:

```

1 <?xml version="1.0"?>
2 <launch>
3
4 <!-- ===== -->
5 <!-- | Launch file to start Gazebo with an ARM using various controllers. | -->
6
7 <!-- | It allows to customize the name of the robot, for each robot | -->
8 <!-- | its topics will be under a namespace with the same name as the robot's. | -->
9
10 <!-- | One can choose to have a joint trajectory controller or | -->
11 <!-- | controllers for the single joints, using the "trajectory" argument. | -->
12 <!-- ===== -->
13
14 <arg name="hardware_interface" default="PositionJointInterface" />
15 <arg name="robot_name" default="arm" />
16 <arg name="model" default="arm"/>
17 <arg name="trajectory" default="true"/>
18
19 <!-- Loads the Gazebo world. -->
20 <include file="$(find arm_gazebo)/launch/arm_world.launch">
21 | <arg name="hardware_interface" value="$(arg hardware_interface)" />
22 | <arg name="robot_name" value="$(arg robot_name)" />
23 | <arg name="model" value="$(arg model)" />
24 </include>
25
26 <!-- Spawn controllers - it uses a JointTrajectoryController >
27 <group ns="$(arg robot_name)" if="$(arg trajectory)">
28
29 | <include file="$(find arm_control)/launch/arm_control.launch">
30 | | <arg name="hardware_interface" value="$(arg hardware_interface)" />
31 | | <arg name="controllers" value="joint_state_controller $(arg hardware_interface)_trajectory_controller" />
32 | | <arg name="robot_name" value="$(arg robot_name)" />
33 | | <arg name="model" value="$(arg model)" />
34 | </include>
35
36 </group-->
37
38 <!-- Spawn controllers - it uses an Effort Controller for each joint -->
39 <group ns="$(arg robot_name)">
40
41 | <include file="$(find arm_control)/launch/arm_control.launch">
42 | | <arg name="hardware_interface" value="$(arg hardware_interface)" />
43 | | <arg name="controllers" value="joint_state_controller
44 | | $(arg hardware_interface)_j0_controller
45 | | $(arg hardware_interface)_j1_controller
46 | | $(arg hardware_interface)_j2_controller
47 | | $(arg hardware_interface)_j3_controller" />
48 |
49 | <arg name="robot_name" value="$(arg robot_name)" />
50 | <arg name="model" value="$(arg model)" />
51 | </include>
52
53 </group>
54
55 </launch>
56

```

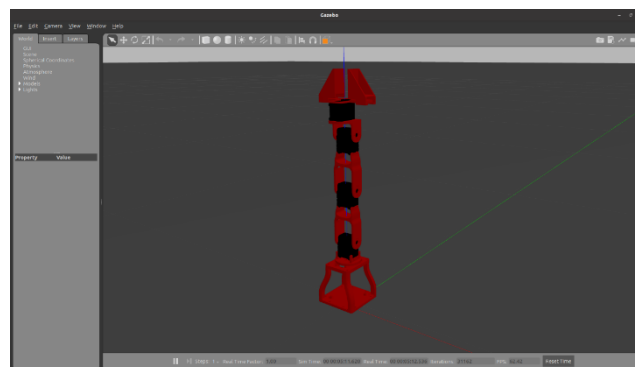
In order to add the gazebo_ros_control plug in I added the following lines into the arm.gazebo.xacro file:

```

<!-- Plugin -->
<gazebo>
| <plugin name="gazebo_ros_control" filename="libgazebo_ros_control.so">
| | <robotNamespace>/$(arg robot_name)</robotNamespace>
| </plugin>
</gazebo>

```

then I launched the arm_gazebo.launch file and the result was:



After 5 minutes of simulation the arm robot was still in the initial position.

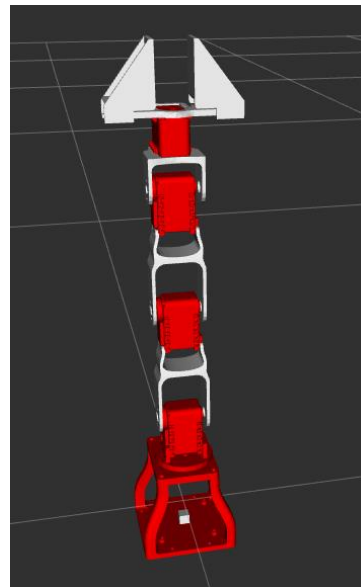
3. Add a camera sensor to your robot

(a) Go into your arm.urdf.xacro file and add a camera_link and a fixed camera_joint with base_link as a parent link. Size and position the camera link opportunely

In order to add the camera to the arm I added this lines into the arm.urdf.xacro file that allow to create a camera_link and a camera_joint:

```
<!-- Add camera_link-->
<link name="camera_link">
  <visual>
    <geometry>
      <box size="0.01 0.01 0.01"/>
    </geometry>
    <origin rpy="0 0 0" xyz="0 0 -0.02"/>
    <material name="white"/>
  </visual>
  <collision>
    <origin rpy="0 0 0" xyz="0 0 0"/>
    <geometry>
      <box size="0.01 0.01 0.01"/>
    </geometry>
  </collision>
</link>

<!-- Add camera_joint -->
<joint name="camera_joint" type="fixed">
  <parent link="base_link"/>
  <child link="camera_link"/>
  <origin xyz="0 0 0" rpy="0 0 0"/>
</joint>
```

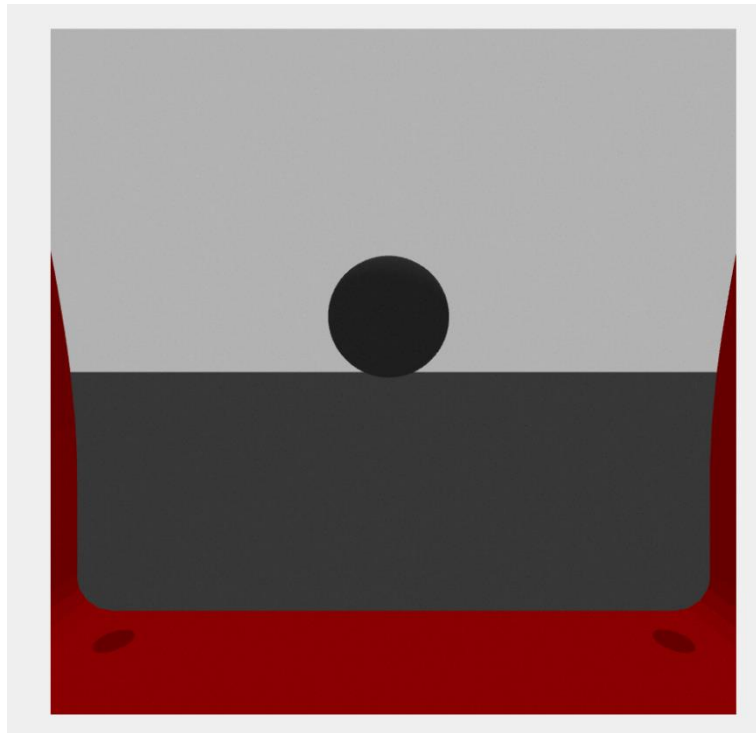


(b) In the arm.gazebo.xacro add the gazebo sensor reference tags and the libgazebo_ros_camera plugin to your xacro (slide 74-75)

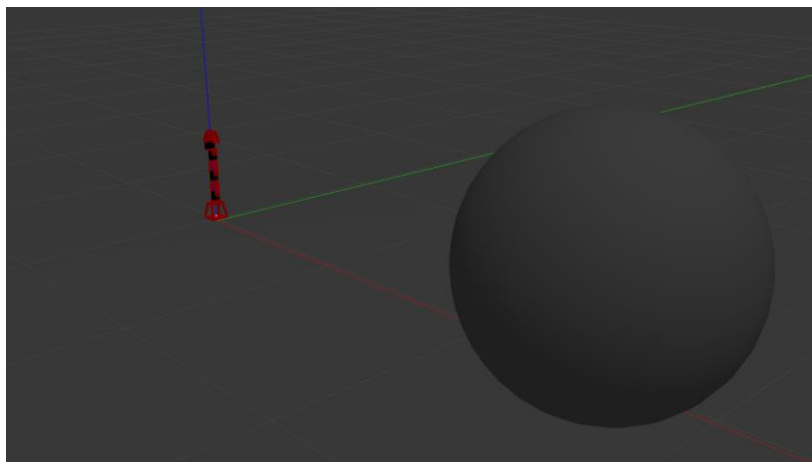
I added these lines into the arm.gazebo.xacro file:

```
<gazebo reference="camera_link">
  <sensor type="camera" name="camera1">
    <update_rate>30.0</update_rate>
    <camera name="head">
      <horizontal_fov>1.3962634</horizontal_fov>
      <image>
        <width>800</width> <height>800</height> <format>
          R8G8B8</format>
      </image>
      <clip>
        <near>0.02</near> <far>300</far>
      </clip>
      <noise>
        <type>gaussian</type> <mean>0.0</mean> <stddev>0.007
        </stddev>
      </noise>
    </camera>
    <plugin name="camera_controller" filename="libgazebo_ros_camera.so">
    </plugin>
  </sensor>
</gazebo>
```

(c) Launch the Gazebo simulation with using `arm_gazebo.launch` and check if the image topic is correctly published using `rqt_image_view`



I added a sphere in Gazebo to check if the camera correctly worked



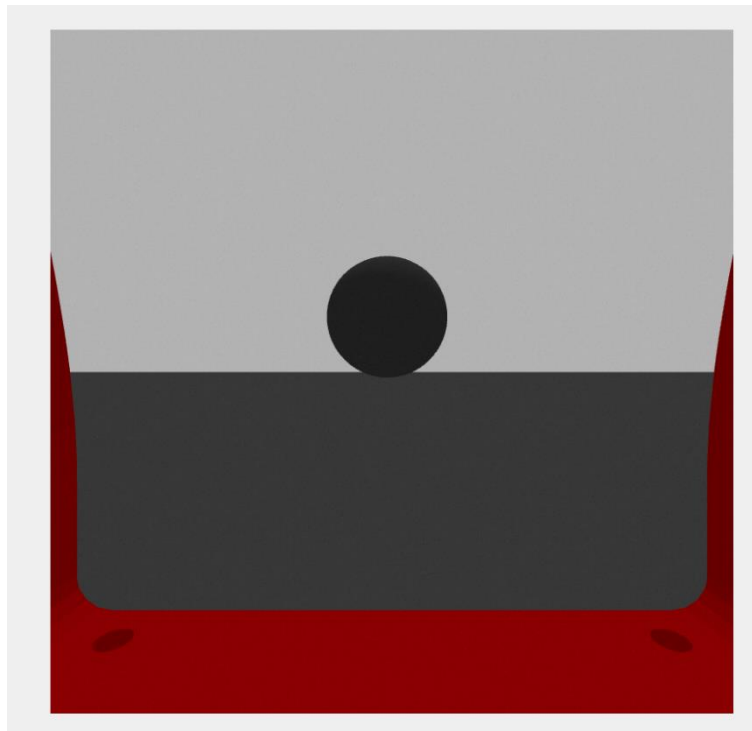
(d) Optionally: You can create a `camera.xacro` file (or download one from <https://github.com/CentroEPiaggio/irobotcreate2ros/blob/master/model/camera.urdf.xacro>) and add it to your robot URDF using

I added the `camera.urdf.xacro` file (that I downloaded from GitHub) in the `urdf` folder of the `arm_description` package so I wrote these lines in the URDF file:

```
<!-- Include camera.urdf.xacro -->
<xacro:include filename="$(find arm_description)/urdf/camera.urdf.xacro"/>

<xacro:camera_sensor xyz="0 0 0" rpy="0 0 0" parent="base_link" />
```

and I obtained the same results of the previously point:



4. Create a ROS publisher node that reads the joint state and sends joint position commands to your robot

(a) Create an arm_controller package with a ROS C++ node named arm_controller_node. The dependencies are roscpp, sensor_msgs and std_msgs. Modify opportunely the CMakeLists.txt file to compile your node. Hint: uncomment add_executable and target_link_libraries lines

```
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_controller/src
davider@davider-X510URR: ~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_controller/src 120x24
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm$ catkin_create_pkg arm_controller roscpp sensor_msgs std_msgs
Created file arm_controller/package.xml
Created file arm_controller/CMakeLists.txt
Created folder arm_controller/include/arm_controller
Created folder arm_controller/src
Successfully created files in /home/davider/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_controller. Please adjust the values in package.xml.
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm$ cd arm_controller/src/
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_controller/src$ touch arm_controller_node.cpp
davider@davider-X510URR:~/catkin_ws/src/arm/arm_controller/src$
```

I uncommented the add_executable and target_link_libraries lines of the CMakeList.txt file

```
add_executable(${PROJECT_NAME}_node src/arm_controller_node.cpp)
```

```
target_link_libraries(${PROJECT_NAME}_node
${catkin_LIBRARIES}
)
```

(b) Create a subscriber to the topic `joint_states` and a callback function that prints the current joint positions (see Slide 45). Note: the topic contains a `sensor_msgs/JointState`

I created a subscriber node in the `arm_controller_node.cpp` file with a callback function that prints the current joint positions of every joint:

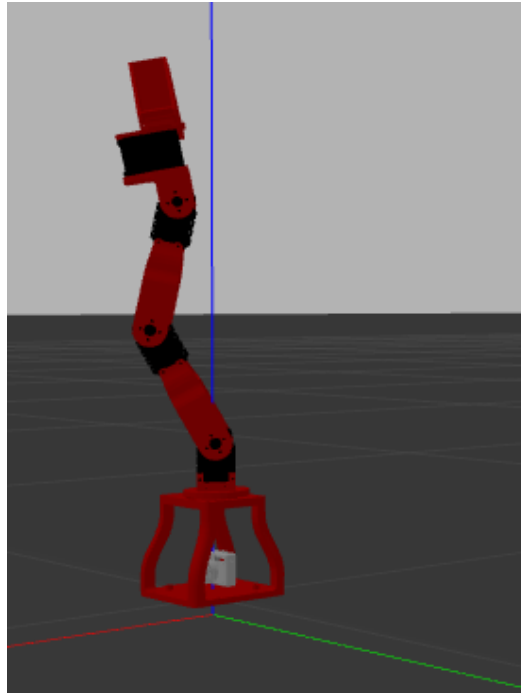
```
1  #include <ros/ros.h>
2  #include <sensor_msgs/JointState.h>
3
4
5  void printJointStates(const sensor_msgs::JointState::ConstPtr& joint_states)
6  {
7      // Print the current joint positions
8      ROS_INFO("Current Joint Positions:");
9      for (size_t i = 0; i < joint_states->name.size(); i++)
10     {
11         ROS_INFO("Joint Name: %s, Position: %f", joint_states->name[i].c_str(), joint_states->position[i]);
12     }
13 }
14
15 int main(int argc, char** argv)
16 {
17     ros::init(argc, argv, "arm_controller_node");
18     ros::NodeHandle nh;
19
20     ros::Subscriber joint_states_sub = nh.subscribe("/arm/joint_states", 10, printJointStates);
21
22     ros::spin();
23     return 0;
24 }
```

(c) Create publishers that write commands onto the controllers' /command topics (see Slide 46). Note: the command is a `std_msgs/Float64`

In the same file I added 4 publishers (one for each joint) that write commands onto the controllers' /command, so the final C++ code is:

```
1  #include <ros/ros.h>
2  #include <sensor_msgs/JointState.h>
3  #include <std_msgs/Float64.h>
4
5
6  void printJointStates(const sensor_msgs::JointState::ConstPtr& joint_states)
7  {
8      // Print the current joint positions
9      ROS_INFO("Current Joint Positions:");
10     for (size_t i = 0; i < joint_states->name.size(); i++)
11     {
12         ROS_INFO("Joint Name: %s, Position: %f", joint_states->name[i].c_str(), joint_states->position[i]);
13     }
14 }
15
16 int main(int argc, char** argv)
17 {
18     ros::init(argc, argv, "arm_controller_node");
19     ros::NodeHandle nh;
20
21     ros::Subscriber joint_states_sub = nh.subscribe("/arm/joint_states", 10, printJointStates);
22
23     ros::Publisher j0_pub = nh.advertise<std_msgs::Float64>("/arm/PositionJointInterface_J0_controller/command", 10);
24     ros::Publisher j1_pub = nh.advertise<std_msgs::Float64>("/arm/PositionJointInterface_J1_controller/command", 10);
25     ros::Publisher j2_pub = nh.advertise<std_msgs::Float64>("/arm/PositionJointInterface_J2_controller/command", 10);
26     ros::Publisher j3_pub = nh.advertise<std_msgs::Float64>("/arm/PositionJointInterface_J3_controller/command", 10);
27
28     ros::Rate loop_rate(10);
29
30     while (ros::ok())
31     {
32         // Publish commands to the controllers' /command topics
33         std_msgs::Float64 j0_command;
34         j0_command.data = 1;
35         j0_pub.publish(j0_command);
36
37         std_msgs::Float64 j1_command;
38         j1_command.data = 0.5;
39         j1_pub.publish(j1_command);
40
41         std_msgs::Float64 j2_command;
42         j2_command.data = -0.7;
43         j2_pub.publish(j2_command);
44
45         std_msgs::Float64 j3_command;
46         j3_command.data = 0.4;
47         j3_pub.publish(j3_command);
48
49         ros::spinOnce();
50         loop_rate.sleep();
51
52     }
53
54     return 0;
55 }
```

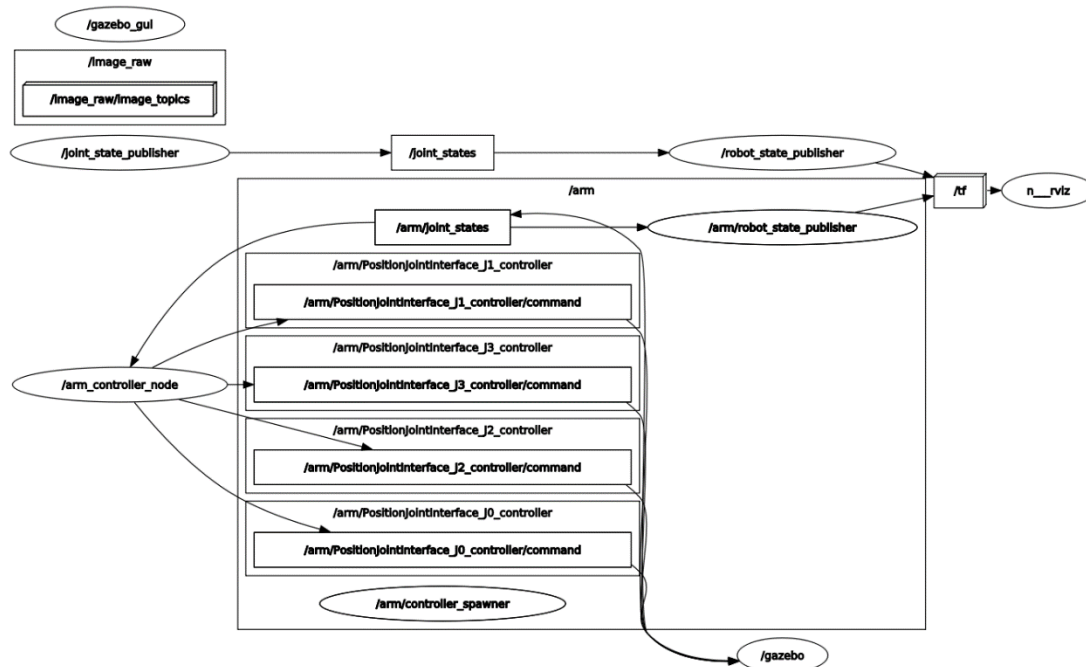
I assigned a different position for each joint and I obtained this configuration:



```
daider@david-XS10URR: ~/catkin_ws 106x25
[ INFO] [1698945864.683059175, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j2, Position: -0.700000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683113462, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j3, Position: 0.400000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683154142, 388.010000000]: Current Joint Positions:
[ INFO] [1698945864.683212289, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j0, Position: 1.000000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683290086, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j1, Position: 0.500000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683332367, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j2, Position: -0.700000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683416916, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j3, Position: 0.400000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683477003, 388.010000000]: Current Joint Positions:
[ INFO] [1698945864.683532573, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j0, Position: 1.000000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683576046, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j1, Position: 0.500000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683611992, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j2, Position: -0.700000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683659779, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j3, Position: 0.400000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683715357, 388.010000000]: Current Joint Positions:
[ INFO] [1698945864.683770074, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j0, Position: 1.000000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683836280, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j1, Position: 0.500000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683892207, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j2, Position: -0.700000
[ INFO] [1698945864.683946061, 388.010000000]: Joint Name: j3, Position: 0.400000
[ INFO] [1698945864.777338750, 388.110000000]: Current Joint Positions:
[ INFO] [1698945864.777498183, 388.110000000]: Joint Name: j0, Position: 1.000000
[ INFO] [1698945864.777565460, 388.110000000]: Joint Name: j1, Position: 0.500000
[ INFO] [1698945864.777637930, 388.110000000]: Joint Name: j2, Position: -0.700000
[ INFO] [1698945864.777709255, 388.110000000]: Joint Name: j3, Position: 0.400000
[ INFO] [1698945864.777821494, 388.110000000]: Current Joint Positions:
[ INFO] [1698945864.777900213, 388.110000000]: Joint Name: j0, Position: 1.000000
```


5. Extra

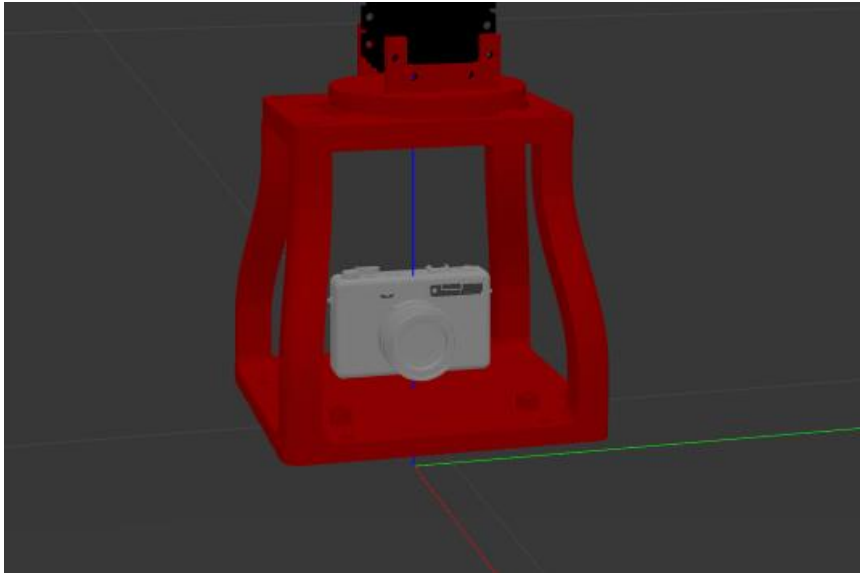
In order to complete this report I decided to show the graph obtained through the command “rqt_graph” when I ran arm_gazebo.launch, display.launch and arm_controller_node.cpp together.



In conclusion I found a .stl file of a camera on internet and I added it to the meshes folder within the arm_description package then I changed the mesh of the camera_link in the arm.urdf.xacro file.

```
<!-- Add camera_link-->
<link name="camera_link">
  <visual>
    <geometry>
      <!--box size="0.01 0.01 0.01"-->
      <mesh filename="package://arm_description/meshes/YASHICA_ELECTRO_35.stl" scale="0.0003 0.0003 0.0003"/>
    </geometry>
    <origin rpy="0 0 1.571" xyz="0.015 0 -0.02"/>
    <material name="white"/>
  </visual>
</link>
```

The final result is:



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