RIS LAB 1

Participants:

Sohaib Salman - contribution (33.33%)

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All the project files are in the folder "RIS-Project". The other two zip files are just supporting packages for the project to run.

TASK 1

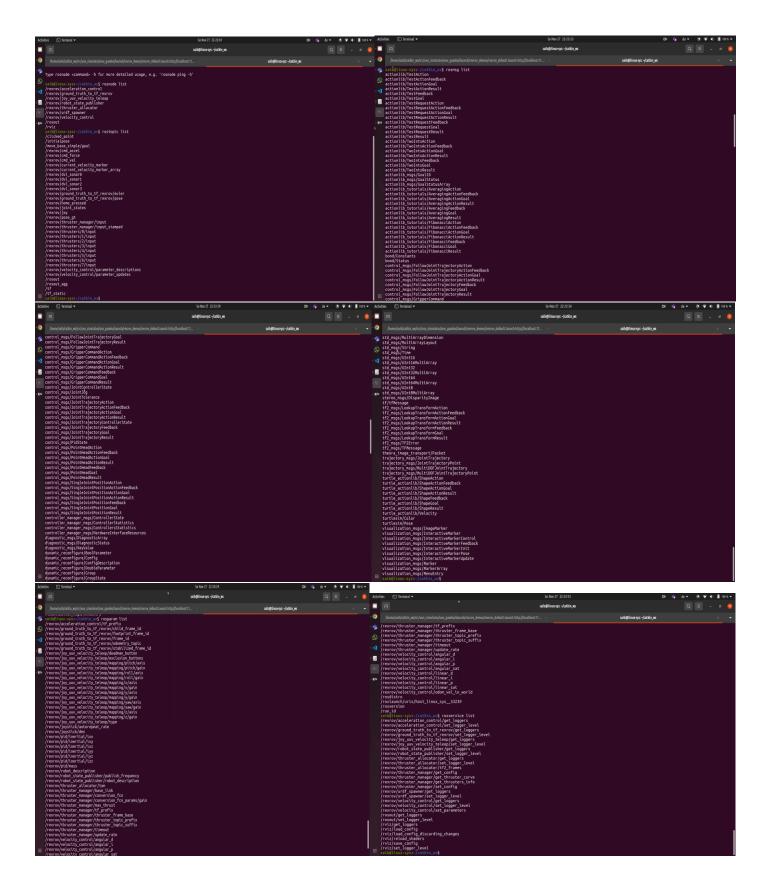
- 1. Launch uuv_gazebo/rexrov_default.launch and inspect the nodes, topics, services it launches and the message/service types they use to communicate.
- a. Write a short report describing these nodes, topics, services and messages including screenshots of rqt or the terminal output from which you collected this information. (15 pts) contribution (33.33% each)

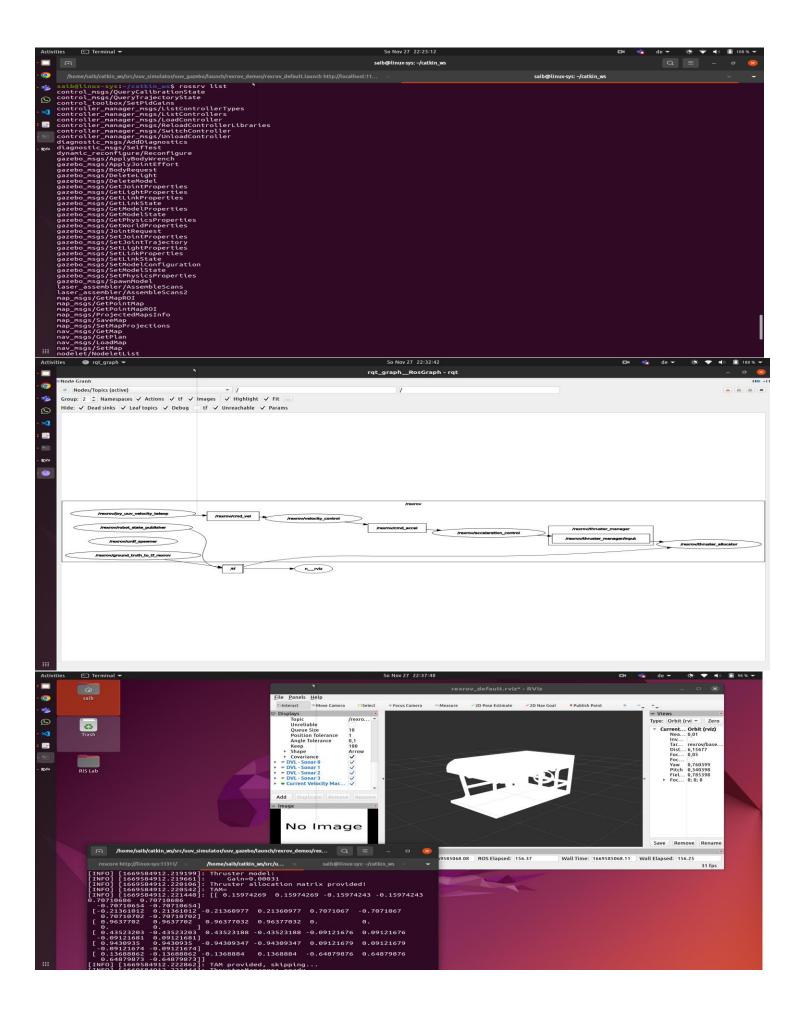
After launching *rexrov_default.launch* file, we get a rviz screen. In the terminal we can see all the nodes, topics, services and messages in the terminal as well as the rqt_graph.

By looking at the screenshots attached and the rqt_graph attached we can see all the nodes and topics along with other messages generated. We have 9 nodes, all of which have different purposes and functions. For example, /rexrov/joystick node is used for controlling the robot, /rexrov/urdf_spawner is to spawn the robot and /rexrov/velocity_control is to control the velocity of the robot. We also have many topics such as /rexrov/ground_truth_to_tf_rexrov/euler and /rexrov/joint_states. As seen from the rqt_graph the nodes (in circles) are not only communicating with themselves but are also connected with topics (in squares) in exchange of information. For example, the node 'rexrov/joy_uuv_velocity_teleop' is subscribing to the topic called '/rexrov/joy' and data(messages) transmitted by the node '/rexrov/joystick' is received by the subscribing topic.

We can also see ros messages in the launch file as well (as shown below) such as control_msgs/FollowJointTrajectoryAction, control_msgs/FollowJointTrajectoryActionFeedback, sensor_msgs/NavSatFix and sensor_msgs/NavSatStatus. These messages are published by nodes and carry their description.

We also have services as srv files and parameters (as shown below). Services are sometimes used to request and reply to between nodes. They allow one node to call a function being executed in another node.





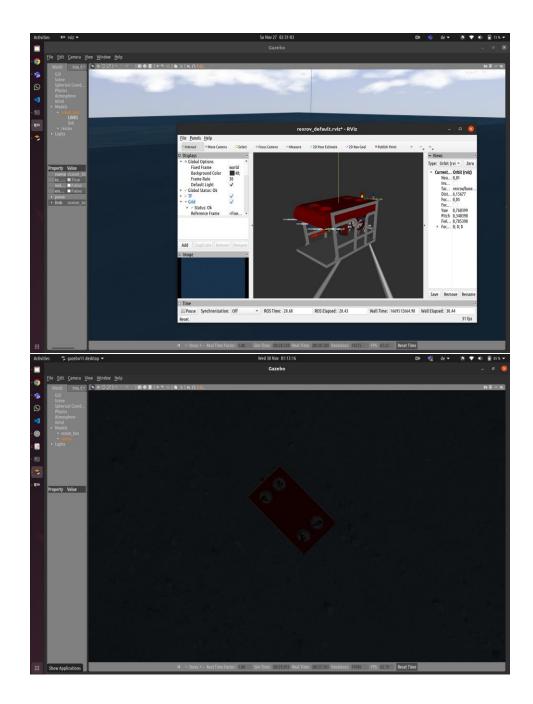
(b) Include the commands you used to retrieve this information and write down what these commands do. (10 pts) - contribution (33.33% each)

After cloning the package and building it through "catkin build", we used "source devel/setup.bash" to make sure that the path is active in the terminal. Then we used the "roslaunch uuv_gazebo rexrov_default.launch" to launch the file. We got the list of nodes by "rosnode list", topics by "rostopic list", messages by "rosmsg list", parameters by "rosparam list" and services by "rossrv list":

TASK 2

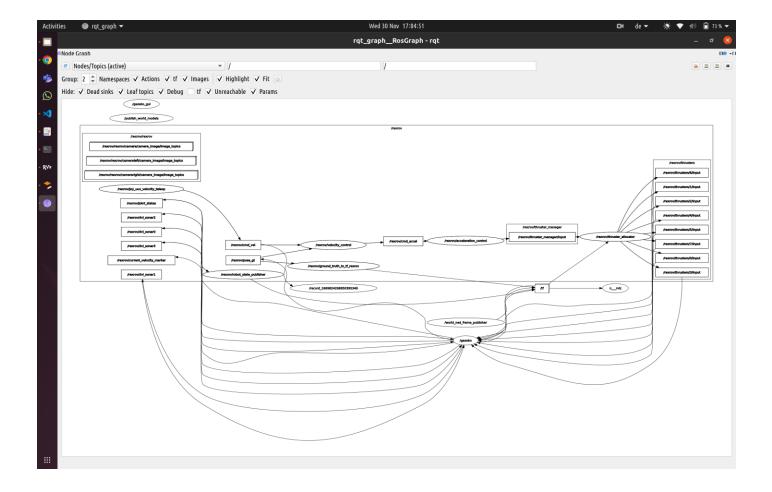
- 2. Controlling the robot using teleop_twist_keyboard:
- (a) Write a launch file that launches the rexrov in uuv_gazebo/rexrov_default.launch into the world spawned by uuv_gazebo_worlds/empty_underwater_world.launch and the teleop_twist_keyboard node in such a way that you can use the teleop node to control the simulated ROV. Please include comments in this launch file to explain what each line is doing. (15 pts) contribution (33.33% each)

In order to see the robot launched in the gazebo world and controlled by the node $teleop_twist_keyboard$, you need to run the launch file under q2/launch/task2.launch. Explanations for the functioning of the launch file are provided as comments.



(b) Log the topic teleop_twist_keyboard/cmd_vel using rosbag, move the vehicle around with your key-board while rosbag is recording. Stop teleop_twist_keyboard and control the robot by replaying the generated rosbag. Create a plot of the traced trajectory of the ROV, and attach a screen shot of rqt_graph while the bag is playing (5 pts) — contribution (33.33% each)

Below you can see the rqt_graph:



This is achieved by first launching the task2 launch file and then moving to the bagfiles folder and recording by: rosbag record rexrov/cmd_vel. Then you can plot it by using: rqt_plot rexrov/cmd_vel/angular:linear

TASK 3

- 3. In this exercise you need to create a node that outputs forces and torques as input to control the AUV in uuv_gazebo/rexrov_wrench_control.launch based on this input. Please download this launch file from the page linked into catkin_ws/src/uuv_simulator/uuv_gazebo/launch/rexrov_demos and launch it into the world spawned by uuv_gazebo_worlds/empty_underwater_world.launch
- (a) Write a node similar to teleop_twist_keyboard that publishes forces and torques to control the AUV. Your node must publish to the topic /rexrov/thruster_manager/input (15pts) contribution (33.33% each)
- (b) Write a launch file similar to the one in exercise 2 that launches the AUV and your node. (5 pts) contribution (33.33% each)

To find the newly created node, similar to teleop_twist_keyboard, please look for the file called wrench_controller.py under *q3/src/wrench_controller.py*. The file is similar to the previous node (teleop_twist_keyboard) but publishes a different type of messages to a different topic and contains some variables not used in the previous file. The launch file is in *q3/launch/task3.launch*. The launch file launches the wrench_controller node with the gazebo world.

- 4. Creating and controlling your own robot.
- (a) Create a urdf file that describes a simple ROV of your own design using the default geometric shapes (or design your own robot in Blender) (10 pts) contribution (33.33% each)

The URDF file for the robot made can be found in *simulation/urdf/test.urdf*. In our robot we have 3 links and 3 joints. The description of every link and joints are under their respective tags.

(b) Decide on the placement of thrusters for this ROV and give your reasoning. (5 pts) — contribution (33.33% each)

The URDF file has 5 thrusters:

- 1. One for vertical ascend underneath the robot.
- 2. Two for sideways movement.
- 3. 3 for maximum power from behind.

This arrangement of thrusters was decided by keeping in mind that it is just a basic robot.

(c) Write your own node that takes in forces and torques as input and publishes thrust commands for your

ROV. The conversion from forces/torques to thrust commands has to be called a service. (10 pts) — contribution (33.33% each)

The node can be found at: simulation/task4c.py

- (d) Write a launch file that (10 pts) contribution (33.33% each)
- i. load this robot into uuv_gazebo_worlds/empty_underwater_world.launch in gazebo
- ii. starts the node you created in exercise 3 to publish force/torque data
- iii. starts the node you created in part c that publishes thrust commands to your vehicle

The ROV file was launched into UUV gazebo. The launch file can be found at: simulation/launch/task4d.launch.

