

Retro ROS 2 Launch

Make ROS Easy Again!

September 5, 2023

Tyler Weaver
Staff Software Engineer
tyler@picknik.ai







- Racing Kart Driver
- Movelt Maintainer
- Rust Evangelist
- Docker Skeptic









Trigger: ROS 2 Launch

```
import os
from launch import LaunchDescription
from launch.actions import DeclareLaunchArgument, OpaqueFunction
from launch.substitutions import LaunchConfiguration, PathJoinSubstitution
from launch.conditions import IfCondition, UnlessCondition
from launch_ros.actions import Node
from launch ros.substitutions import FindPackageShare
from launch.actions import ExecuteProcess
from ament index python.packages import get package share directory
from moveit configs utils import MoveItConfigsBuilder
def generate launch description():
    declared arguments = []
   declared arguments.append(
        DeclareLaunchArgument("rviz config",
            default value="kinova moveit config demo.rviz",
            description="RViz configuration file",
   return LaunchDescription(declared arguments + [OpaqueFunction(function=launch setup)])
def launch setup(context, *args, **kwargs):
    launch arguments = {
        "robot ip": "xxx.yyy.zzz.www",
        "use fake hardware": "true",
        "gripper": "robotiq 2f 85",
        "dof": "7",
   moveit config = (
        MoveItConfigsBuilder("gen3", package name="kinova gen3 7dof robotiq 2f 85 moveit config")
        .robot description(mappings=launch arguments)
        .trajectory execution(file path="config/moveit controllers.yaml")
        .planning scene monitor(publish robot description=True, publish robot description semantic=True)
        .planning pipelines(pipelines=["ompl", "stomp", "pilz industrial motion planner"])
        .to moveit configs()
```



```
# Start the actual move group node/action server
run move group node = Node(
    package="moveit ros move group",
    executable="move group",
    output="screen",
    parameters=[moveit config.to dict()],
rviz base = LaunchConfiguration("rviz config")
rviz config = PathJoinSubstitution([FindPackageShare("moveit2 tutorials"), "launch"
# RViz
rviz node = Node(
    package="rviz2",
    executable="rviz2",
    name="rviz2",
    output="log",
   arguments=["-d", rviz config],
    parameters=[
        moveit config.robot description,
        moveit config robot description semantic,
        moveit config.robot description kinematics,
        moveit config.planning pipelines,
        moveit config.joint limits,
# Static TF
static tf = Node(
    package="tf2 ros",
    executable="static transform publisher",
    name="static transform publisher",
    output="log",
    arguments=["--frame-id", "world", "--child-frame-id", "base link"],
# Publish TF
robot state publisher = Node(
    package="robot state publisher",
    executable="robot state publisher",
    name="robot state publisher",
    output="both",
    parameters=[moveit config.robot description],
nodes to start = [
    rviz node,
    static tf,
    robot_state_publisher,
```

```
<launch>
  <arg name="robot ip" default="xxx.yyy.zzz.www" />
  <arg name="use fake hardware" default="true" />
  <arg name="gripper" default="robotiq 2f 85" />
  <arg name="dof" default="7" />
  <let name="robot description"
    value="$(command 'xacro $(find-pkg-share kortex description)/robots/gen3.xacro
      robot ip:=$(var robot ip) use fake hardware:=$(var use fake hardware)
      gripper:=$(var gripper) dof:=$(var dof)')" />
  <let name="robot description semantic"</li>
    value="$(command 'xacro $(find-pkg-share kinova moveit config)/config/gen3.srdf')"
  />
 <!-- MoveGroup -->
  <node pkg="moveit ros move group" exec="move group" output="screen">
    <param name="robot description" value="$(var robot description)" />
    <param name="robot description semantic" value="$(var robot description semantic)"</pre>
    <param from="$(find-pkg-share cpp parameters)/config/moveit.yaml" />
  </node>
</launch>
```



```
<let name="robot_description_semantic"
   value="$(command 'xacro $(find-pkg-share kinova_moveit_config)/config/gen3.srdf
/>
...
<param name="robot_description_semantic" value="$(var robot_description_semantic)"

' using yaml rules: yaml.safe_load() failed
mapping values are not allowed here
  in "<unicode string>", line 11, column 13:
      <!--GROUPS: Representation of a set of joi ...
^</pre>
```

- SRDF parameter loaded into variable robot_description_semantic
- value attribute is parsed as yaml
- yaml parser fails when it finds: character
- Open issue on ros2/launch: https://github.com/ros2/launch/issues/729





Try quoting string to get it to stop parsing





- Try quoting string to get it to stop parsing
- Realize error is parsing comment



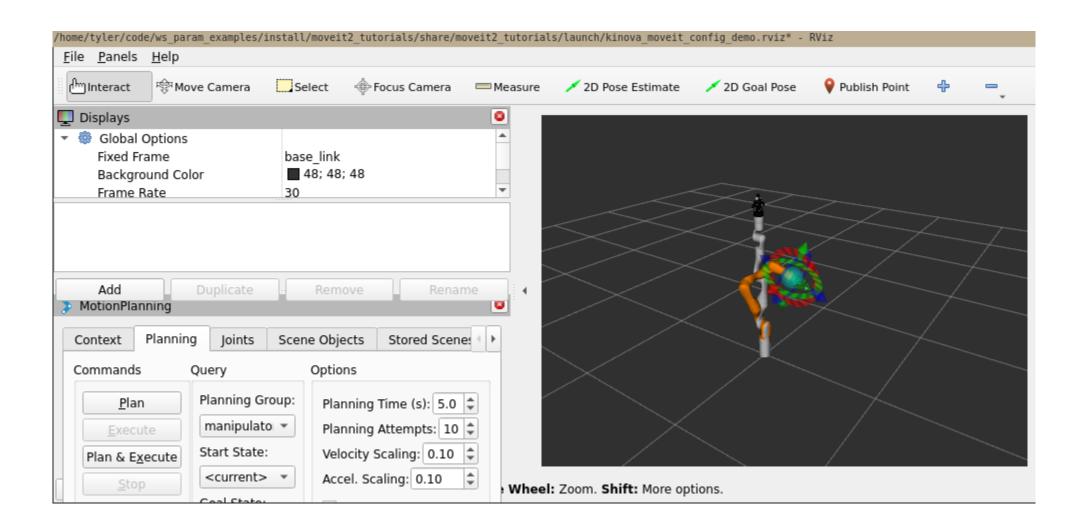


- Try quoting string to get it to stop parsing
- Realize error is parsing comment
- Remove: character from comment in srdf files





- Try quoting string to get it to stop parsing
- Realize error is parsing comment
- Remove: character from comment in srdf files
- Profit!



Better Place: ROS 2 XML Launch



- Launch demo with 43 lines of XML vs >500 lines of Python
- Single moveit.yaml config for Movelt
- ROS 2 XML Launch Docs: docs.ros.org/en/rolling/How-To-Guides/ Migrating-from-ROS1/Migrating-Launch-Files.html
- Comparing Python/XML/YAML: docs.ros.org/en/rolling/How-To-Guides/ Launch-file-different-formats.html
- Source: github.com/tylerjw/easy_ros2_launch_talk

Thank You!



github.com/tylerjw/easy_ros2_launch_talk