

Introduction

B(E)3M33MRS — Aerial Multi-Robot Systems

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FACULTY
OF ELECTRICAL
ENGINEERING
CTU IN PRAGUE



MULTI-ROBOT
SYSTEMS
GROUP

Lab Tasks

Lab 1: Introduction

Tomáš Bába

Tasks scoring

Tasks' description

Computer requirements

Linux terminal

Git

C++

MRS System

MRS Cheatsheet

Singularity

How to start

Automatic eval.

01 Control

- Pass = 15 points

02 Formation

- Pass = 15 points
- + optional 20 points

03 Swarm

- Pass = 15 points
- + optional 15 points

Exam + Labs = Final mark, 100 points = A, ECTS

Max 70 points from the lab towards your exam.

13 lab weeks

- 2nd week is a state holiday :-(
- Deadlines are listed at <https://cw.fel.cvut.cz/b221/courses/mrs/start>

01 Control

You will solve

- UAV control,
- UAV state estimation.

You will learn

- PID control,
- UAV dynamics,
- Linear Kalman Filter.

You will practice:

- Programming in C++,
- Simulating in Gazebo,
- Visualizing in Rviz.

02 Formation

You will solve

- Formation control,
- Mission state machine,
- Multilateration (optional).

You will learn

- multi-UAV planning,
- UAV coordination,
- multilateration.

You will practice:

- More Programming,
- Simulating in Gazebo,
- Visualizing in Rviz.

03 Swarm

You will solve

- Swarm control,
- Consensus.

You will learn

- swarming and flocking,
- consensus.

You will practice:

- More Programming
- Simulating in Gazebo
- Visualizing in Rviz

PC requirements for the labs

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How to
start

Automatic
eval.

1. Own Linux laptop

- “any” Linux OS
- \approx 5 GB of free space
- + install Singularity

2. Computer in the lab

- should work out of the box

3. Own Windows laptop

- there is a chance it will work
- there is a chance it won't
- WSL (Windows System for Linux)

Work in Linux terminal

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- `cd <path>` — changes directory to path
- `cd ..` — goes one directory higher
- `cd` — goes to HOME
- `./script.sh` — will execute `script.sh` in current directory
- `nano file.txt` — edits `file.txt` using nano
- `vim file.txt` — edits `file.txt` using vim
- `exit` — exits shell session
- `zip -r archive.zip folder` — zips folder to `archive.zip`
- `unzip archive.zip` — unzips the archive

GIT — Version control system of the Open Source world

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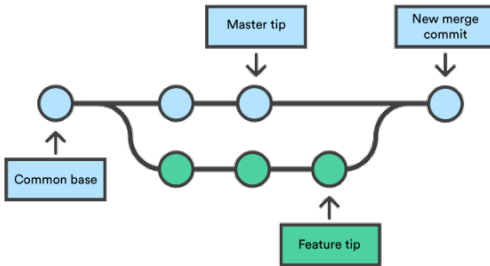
Singularity

How to start

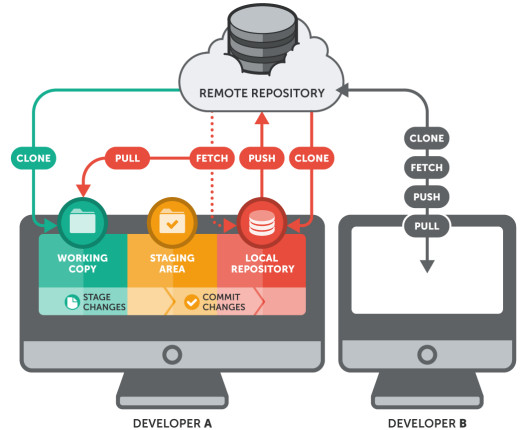
Automatic eval.

- Ability to synchronize changes between computers.
- Keeping track of own changes.
- Maintaining full history.

Git commits organized in branches



Decentralized software version control system



Git hosting servers — where to host your projects

- <http://github.com> — free public and private repositories
- <http://gitlab.com> — free public and private repositories
- <http://gitlab.fel.cvut.cz> — study-related projects

Tips for setting up

- Setup SSH keys to push/pull without password: (<https://docs.github.com/en/authentication/connecting-to-github-with-ssh/adding-a-new-ssh-key-to-your-github-account>)
- Make your Lab task repository private, to avoid others from stealing your unique solution ;-)
- For the start, use Github's desktop client.

GIT — Version control system of the Open Source world

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Often-used git commands

- `git clone <url>` — clones repository from <url>
- `git status` — shows the status of the repository
- `git diff` — shows uncommitted changes in the repository
- `git add file.txt` — adds changes in file.txt to the next commit
- `git add -A` — adds all changes to the next commit
- `git commit -m "fixed bugs"` — commits changes with message "fixed bugs"
- `git commit -am "fixed all bugs"` — commits all changes with message "fixed bugs"
- `git reset --hard` — **reverts all changes (dangerous)**
- `git clean -fd` — **removes new uncommitted files (dangerous)**
- `git pull` — pulls current branch
- `git push` — pushes current branch

- Vanilla C++17
- Standard libraries
- Eigen library

Visual Studio Code

- provided within the container
- code completion should work

SublimeText

- provided within the container
- code completion might work

Vim

- provided within the container
- code completion will work

Standard libraries

Output:

- `std::iostream`

Utilities:

- `std::pair`
- `std::tuple`

Containers:

- `std::vector`
- `std::list`

Eigen library

- `Eigen::Matrix`
- `Eigen::Vector`

MRS UAV System on Robot Operating System [1]

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Do NOT install it!

- Used by the MRS lab to do research.
- Students use to do Bc/Msc theses.
- **Contained within a Singularity container for the lab assignments**

What does it do?

- UAV control
- State estimation
- UAV deployment
- Motion planning
- Sensor processing

MRS UAV System

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository for the MRS UAV System. The repository is owned by the 'Multi-robot Systems (MRS) group at Czech Technical University in Prague'. It has 113 repositories, 3 projects, 4 teams, 30 people, and settings. The pinned repositories are:

- mrs_uav_system** (Public): The entry point to the MRS UAV system. 193 stars, 55 forks.
- uav_core** (Public): The main integrator of MRS UAV packages in ROS, part of the 'mrs_uav_system'. 36 stars, 14 forks.
- simulation** (Public): The main MRS simulation Gazebo/ROS package. Part of the 'mrs_uav_system'. 28 stars, 12 forks.
- mrs_singularity** (Public): Singularity definitions, scripts and resources for the MRS UAV System. 9 stars, 8 forks.
- example_ros_packages** (Public): Integrates other example packages. Part of the 'mrs_uav_system'. 3 stars, 4 forks.
- mrs_cheatsheet** (Public): Cheatsheet for the 'mrs_uav_system', ROS, Linux, Tmux, Vim and more. 8 stars, 0 forks.

On the right side, there is a 'View as: Public' dropdown, a note about README files, and a 'People' section showing a grid of user avatars.

https://github.com/ctu-mrs/mrs_uav_system

MRS Cheat Sheet

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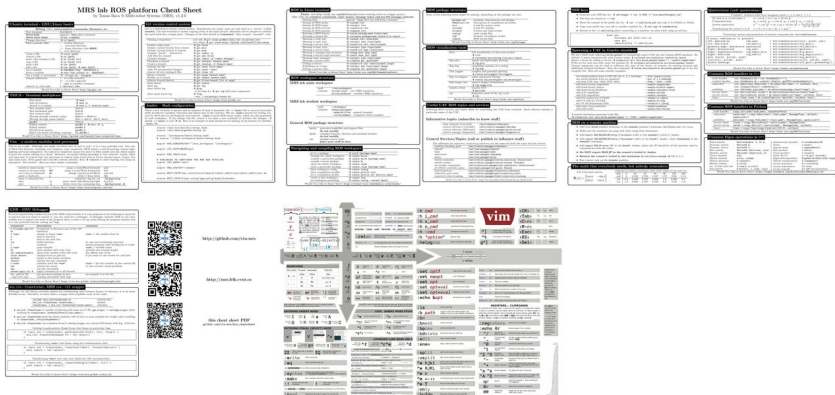
Singularity

How to start

Automatic eval.

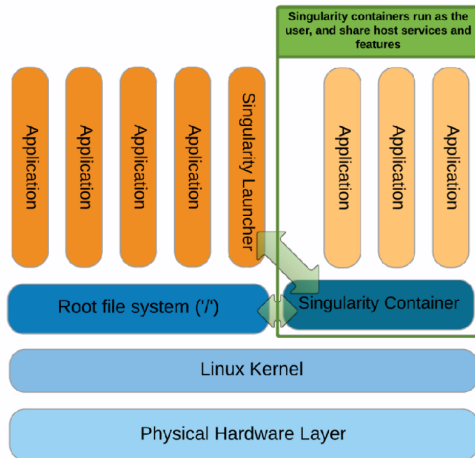
https://github.com/ctu-mrs/mrs_cheatsheet

5 pages of tips for Linux, bash, ROS, C++, Python, Vim and more



Singularity Container

- Minimal-invasive option for personal PC
- ≈ 4 GB file docker image
- Includes all build and run dependencies
- “Guaranteed” compatibility during the semester
- **No need to learn singularity**
- Students are shielded from it by our scripts



On the lab's computer

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1. Go to <https://cw.felk.cvut.cz/brute/>
2. Login as a student
3. Locate the Task 01 Control

Assignment	control - Task 01 Control	
Mandatory	This assignment has to be uploaded or evaluated. Required minimum score is 1.	
Deadline	2.11.2022 00:00	
Penalty	Every 168 hours will cost you 2 points down. But no more than 14 points.	
Latest upload	Uploaded at 10.9.2022 12:22  	
Required time	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Time spent on solution (in hours).
Upload new version	<input type="text" value="Select file..."/> 	
Allowed types	['zip', 'tar', 'gz', 'bz2', 'tgz']	
Score	15 (+ AE: 15) (min: 1 max: 15)	
Number of uploads	1 Note: Only 100 uploads are allowed	
Results	AE result	

4. Download the zip file
5. Unzip the zip file (`unzip task_01_control.zip`)
6. Follow the instructions in the `assignment.pdf` (section 2.3 Starting the simulation)
 - **skip the step with running `install_singularity.sh`**

On personal computer with Linux

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1. Go to <https://cw.felk.cvut.cz/brute/>
2. Login as a student
3. Locate the Task 01 Control
4. Download the zip file
5. Unzip the zip file (`unzip task_01_control.zip`)
6. Follow the instruction in the `assignment.pdf`
7. Follow the instruction in the `assignment.pdf` (section 2.3 *Starting the simulation*)
 - **For Ubuntu-compatible OS:** follow the step with running `install_singularity.sh`
 - **For other Linux OS:** Install Singularity according to the official documentation:

<https://docs.sylabs.io/guides/3.0/user-guide/index.html>

Windows system on Linux (WSL)

- Allows running Ubuntu “natively” under Windows
- It's great when it works
- Might not work due to your GPU, GPU driver, Windows version, etc.
- Works on average in 66% of time

1. Make sure your windows are up-to-date.
2. Install WSL (`wsl --install` in power shell)
3. Install Ubuntu 20.04 using the Microsoft Store
4. Download and install VcXsrv (an X-server client for Windows used to see the GUI from within Ubuntu)
5. Start the `vcxsrv.exe` by running: `vcxsrv.exe -ac -multiwindow`
6. Run the Terminal from the Start menu and launch a new terminal with Ubuntu 20.04.
7. Run `sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade && sudo apt install gedit`
8. Run `gedit` to verify that GUI will show up
9. If the GUI does not show up, add the following line to the `$HOME/.bashrc` file in the Linux subsystem:

```
export DISPLAY=$(grep -m 1 nameserver /etc/resolv.conf | awk 'print $2'):0.0
```
10. **Follow the Linux instructions on the previous page**

- It is possible, e.g., using VMWare, VirtualBox.
- Will be slow.
- Will need approx. 20 GB of space.

- Will not work with A1 and A2 chips due to different CPU architecture.
- Probably will not work on virtual machine either.
- It might work with Intel under virtual machine.
- We don't know, we don't have MACs around.
- We offer no support on MAC.

Automatic evaluation

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BRUTE server

- All points earned through BRUTE
- Simulation in BRUTE is serialized
- Be patient, it might take time.
- Approx. 3 minutes for task 01, if there is no one in the queue.
- Approx. 8 minutes for task 02, if there is no one in the queue.

On local machine

- The same evaluators as in BRUTE
- Follow the instructions in the assignment pdf

Info result page in BRUTE

MRS — Task 01 Controller — bacatoma (1)

Submission

Login:	bacatoma
Year:	2022Z
Submission no.:	1
Seconds after deadline:	0

Results

Score: 15.0

Control test: **PASSED**, position RMSE 0.29 (limit 0.50), tilt RMSE 0.10 (limit 0.50), additional info: finished

Kalman test: **PASSED**, position RMSE 0.03 (limit 0.05), velocity RMSE 0.02 (limit 0.05)

Control test log:

```
student@8e514fdc840d:/tmp/ros_workspace/src$ source /tmp/ros_workspace/devel/setup.bash && roslaunch task_01_evaluation controller_test.launch file:~/tmp/tmpoek14dpe
... logging to /home/student/.ros/log/c4c64dd6-30f2-11ed-b43f-251b71095d21/roslaunch-8e514fdc840d-3301.log
Checking log directory for disk usage. This may take a while.
Press Ctrl-C to interrupt
Done checking log file disk usage. Usage is <1GB.
[12:/tmp/ros_workspace/src/ros_packages/evaluation/launch/controller_test.launch
started roslaunch server http://127.0.0.1:46493/]

SUMMARY
-----
PARAMETERS
 * /roslaunch: noetic
 * /rosversion: 1.15.14
 * /uav1/controller_test/file: /tmp/tmpoek14dpe
 * /uav1/controller_test/main_timer/rate: 100
 * /uav1/controller_test/path: [0.0, 0.0, 1.5, 0.0]
 * /uav1/controller_test/relax_heading: True
 * /uav1/controller_test/requirements/rise_position: 0.5
 * /uav1/controller_test/requirements/rise_tilt: 0.5
 * /uav1/controller_test/start_timer/rate: 1
 * /uav1/controller_test/stop_at_waypoints: False
 * /uav1/controller_test/use_heading: True
 * /uav1/controller_test/version: 1.0.0
```

MS Teams

- You should be added to the B3M33MRS course.
- Post general questions rather than sending personal messages.

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- [1] T. Baca, M. Petrlik, M. Vrba, V. Spurny, R. Penicka, D. Hert, and M. Saska, "The MRS UAV System: Pushing the Frontiers of Reproducible Research, Real-world Deployment, and Education with Autonomous Unmanned Aerial Vehicles," *Journal of Intelligent & Robotic Systems*, vol. 102, no. 26, pp. 1–28, 1 May 2021.