Introduction to ROS
(continued)

COMP3431/COMP9434
Robot Software Architectures
Turtlebot Setup – Example

The Turtlebot's Joule processor is limited so we want to off-load as much processing as possible to an external workstation (or VM).
Turtlebot Setup – Step 1

Set ROS_MASTER and ROS_HOSTNAME for each computer.

Turtlebot Joule
IP: 192.168.1.10
ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
ROS_HOSTNAME=192.168.1.10

Workstation/VM
IP: 192.168.1.20
ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
ROS_HOSTNAME=192.168.1.20
Turtlebot Setup – Step 2

Spawn master in new terminal on workstation:

```
$ roscore
```

* `roscore` spawns master but also parameter server and logging outputs (not shown here).

Turtlebot Joule
IP: 192.168.1.10
ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
ROS_HOSTNAME=192.168.1.10

Workstation/VM
IP: 192.168.1.20
ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
ROS_HOSTNAME=192.168.1.20
Turtlebot Setup – Step 3

Run turtlebot startup in terminal on Joule:

```
$ roslaunch comp3431 turtlebot.launch
```

What this does:

- spawns nodes to talk to hardware

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Turtlebot Joule
IP: 192.168.1.10

ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
ROS_HOSTNAME=192.168.1.10

Workstation/VM
IP: 192.168.1.20

ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
ROS_HOSTNAME=192.168.1.20
Turtlebot Setup – Step 3

Run turtlebot startup in terminal on Joule:

```
$ roslaunch comp3431 turtlebot.launch
```

What this does:

- Spawns nodes to talk to hardware
- Nodes register with master

![Diagram of Turtlebot network connections]

- Turtlebot Joule
  - IP: 192.168.1.10
  - ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
  - ROS_HOSTNAME=192.168.1.10

- Workstation/VM
  - IP: 192.168.1.20
  - ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
  - ROS_HOSTNAME=192.168.1.20
Run turtlebot startup in terminal on Joule:

$ roslaunch comp3431 turtlebot.launch

What this does:

- Spawns nodes to talk to hardware
- Nodes register with master
- base subscribes to /cmd_vel topic
Run turtlebot teleop in workstation terminal:

```
$ roslaunch turtlebot_teleop keyboard_teleop.launch
```

What this does:

- Spawns node to listen to keyboard

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Turtlebot Joule
IP: 192.168.1.10

ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
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IP: 192.168.1.20

ROS_MASTER=192.168.1.20:11311
ROS_HOSTNAME=192.168.1.20
Turtlebot Setup – Step 4

Run turtlebot teleop in workstation terminal:

$ roslaunch turtlebot_teleop keyboard_teleop.launch

What this does:

- Spawns node to listen to keyboard
- Node registers with master
Turtlebot Setup – Step 4

Run turtlebot teleop in workstation terminal:

```
$ roslaunch turtlebot_teleop keyboard_teleop.launch
```

What this does:

- Spawns node to listen to keyboard
- Node registers with master
- `kbd_ctl` publishes to `/cmd_vel` topic
Frames of Reference

- ROS standardises the transformation model between different coordinate frames of reference.
- Right Hand Rule, X forward (XYZ ↔ RGB)
- Tree structure:
  - /map
    - /base_link
      - /base_footprint
      - /laser

- Example: laser detected object is relative to laser frame. Need to transform to map coordinate to know where it is on the map.
ROS Tools and Programs – 1

- Often first thing you run:

  ```
  $ roscore
  ```

  - Spawns ROS master – already explained
  - Creates a logging node (listening on topic `/rosout`).
  - Parameter server ([http://wiki.ros.org/Parameter%20Server](http://wiki.ros.org/Parameter%20Server)):
    - Shared dictionary for storing runtime parameters
    - Provides flexibility for storing configuration data
    - Hierarchical structure (don't confuse with topic names or frames).
    - Allows private names – configuration specific to a single node.
ROS Tools and Programs – 2

- What is the difference between `roslaunch` and `rosrun`?
- What is going on when I run:

  ```
  $ roslaunch comp3431 turtlebot.launch
  ```

  – If ROS_MASTER is local and no ROS master is running, then run `roscore`.
    - A weird mix of XML and shell scripting
    - … let's look at `comp3431/launch/turtlebot.launch`
    - `node` tag in `includes/laser.launch` executes rosrun with appropriate parameters.

      ```
      $ rosrunch lidar_node lidar_node _frame_id:="/lidar" ...
      ```

    - Note: the “_” - for private parameters.
To debug the connections between nodes use:

$ rqt_graph
  - Visualises the node graph – and topic connections

Rviz is the main visualisation tool for ROS:

$ rosrun rviz rviz
  - Provides plugins architecture for visualising different topics:
    - Videos
    - Map of environment and localised robot
    - Point cloud within the map

Example: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25nnJ64ED5Q
ROS Tools and Programs – 4

- Possible to save the data produced by topics for later analysis and playback:
  
  $ rosbag record -a
  
  - Creates a time stamped bag file in the current directory.
  - Warning: “-a” records all topics so will generate a lot of data.

- Often useful to only record only direct sensor inputs (e.g., laser scans and timing) because the other topics will be generated from processing sensor data.

- To replay:

  $ rosbag play <bagfile>

- Useful if you are testing different interchangeable node (e.g., mapping with gmapping, hector SLAM, or Cartographer).

- Note: SLAM (Simultaneous Localisation and Mapping) algorithms build a map while at the same time localising. Very widely used in robotics.
ROS Tools – Simulator

• Two standard simulators; Stage (2D) and Gazebo (3D)
• For Turtlebot see: [http://wiki.ros.org/turtlebot_simulator](http://wiki.ros.org/turtlebot_simulator)
• The Gazebo guide - easy guide to get simulator up and running.
• Follow the install instructions, then in different terminals run:

  ```
  $ roslaunch turtlebot_gazebo turtlebot_world.launch
  $ roslaunch turtlebot_teleop keyboard_teleop.launch
  $ roslaunch turtlebot_rviz_launchers view_robot.launch
  ```

• ... see video
Many Different Sensors

- Laser Scanner
- Camera
- IR Cameras
- Depth Cameras
- Motor
- Pressure Sensor
- Compass
- Accelerometer
- IMU (Inertial Measurement Unit) – detects linear acceleration using accelerometer and rotation using gyroscope
- Audio

ROS provides standardised data structures for some of these sensors.
Laser Scanners

- A laser is rotated through a plane
- Distance (& intensity) measurements taken periodically
- 180-270 degrees

sensor_msgs/LaserScan

- std_msgs/Header header
  - uint32 seq
  - time stamp
  - string frame_id
- float32 angle_min
- float32 angle_max
- float32 angle_increment
- float32 time_increment
- float32 scan_time
- float32 range_min
- float32 range_max
- float32[] ranges
- float32[] intensities
Cameras

- Stream images
- Various encodings used (RGB, Mono, UYVY, Bayer)
- ROS has no conversion functions
Depth Cameras

- Usually produce Mono16 images
- Typically turned into point clouds
- Depth measurements can be radial or axial

sensor_msgs/PointCloud

std_msgs/Header header
  uint32 seq
  time stamp
  string frame_id

geometry_msgs/Point32[] points
  float32 x
  float32 y
  float32 z

sensor_msgs/ChannelFloat32[] channels
  string name
  float32[] values
Motor Positions

- Many motors report their positions
- Used to produce transformations between frames of reference

```
sensor_msgs/JointState
std_msgs/Header header
  uint32 seq
  time stamp
  string frame_id
string[] name
float64[] position
float64[] velocity
float64[] effort
```
Lab Exercise

- Modify simple publisher and subscriber from Lecture 1:
  - Class member function callbacks.
  - Use Timer to publish at a specific rate.