

# ROS Workshop

Lorenz Mösenlechner  
Technische Universität München

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# Outline

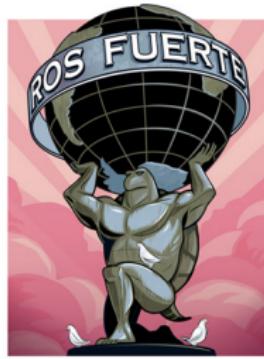
1. Overview
2. ROS Communication Layer
3. ROS Build System
4. Programming with ROS
5. The TF Library

# Outline

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# What is ROS?

More than just a middleware



- ▶ A “meta” operating system for robots
- ▶ A collection of packaging, software building tools
- ▶ An architecture for distributed inter-process/inter-machine communication and configuration
- ▶ Development tools for system runtime and data analysis
- ▶ A language-independent architecture (c++, python, lisp, java, *and more*)

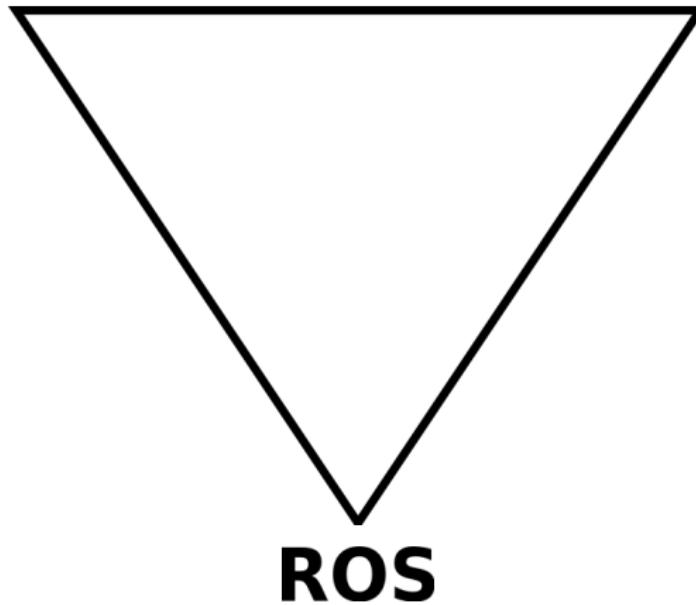
# What is ROS not?

No confusion

- ▶ An *actual* operating system
- ▶ A programming language
- ▶ A programming environment / IDE
- ▶ A hard real-time architecture

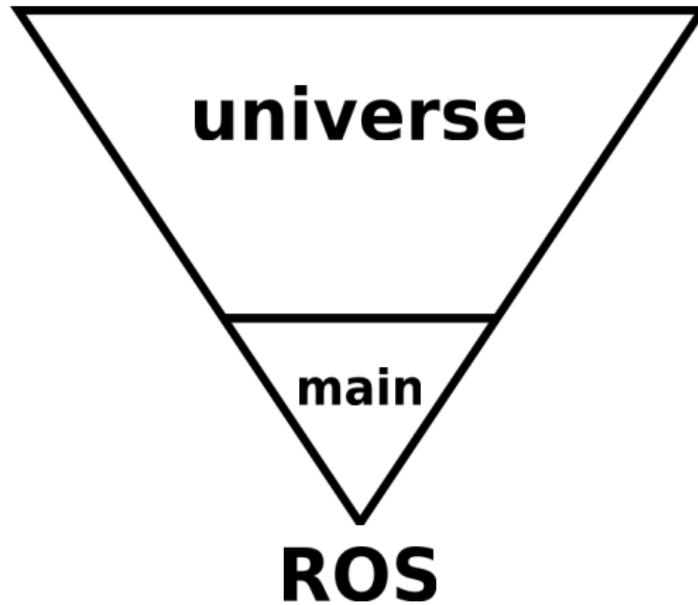
# What does ROS get you?

All levels of development



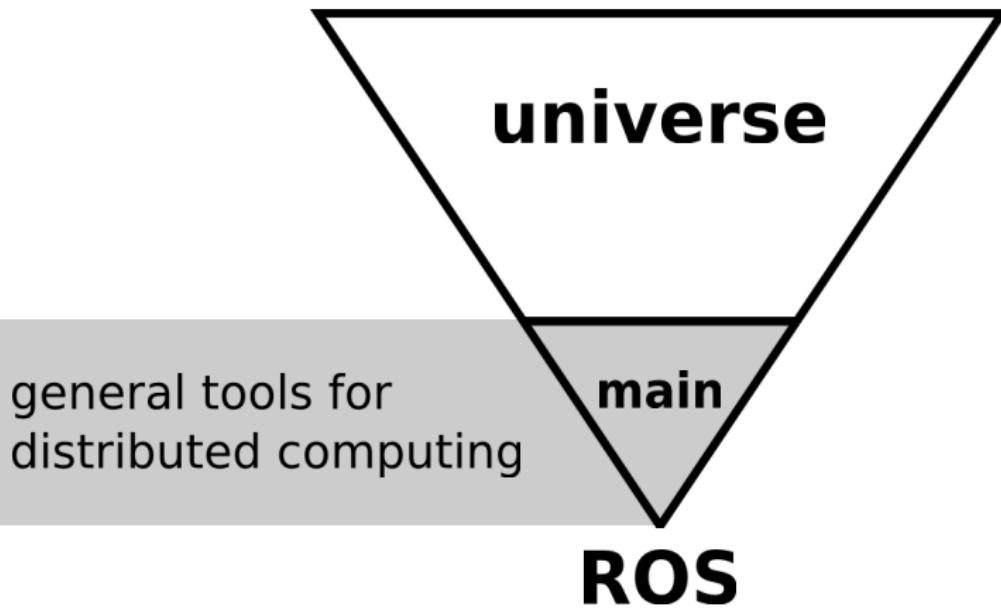
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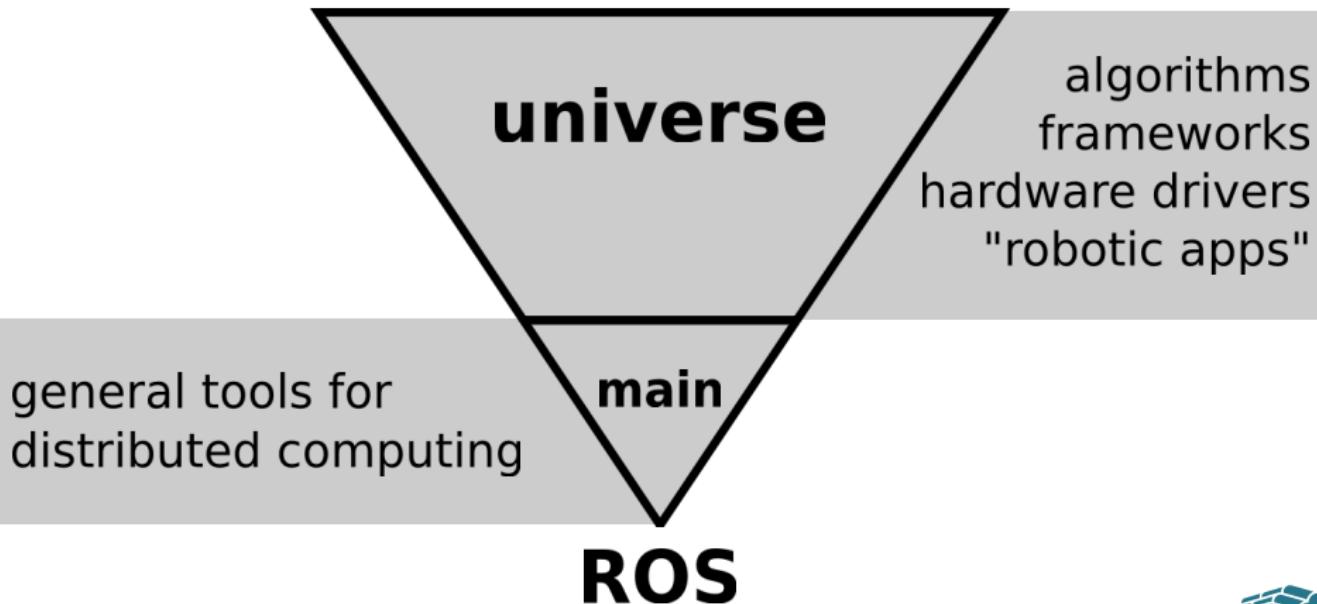
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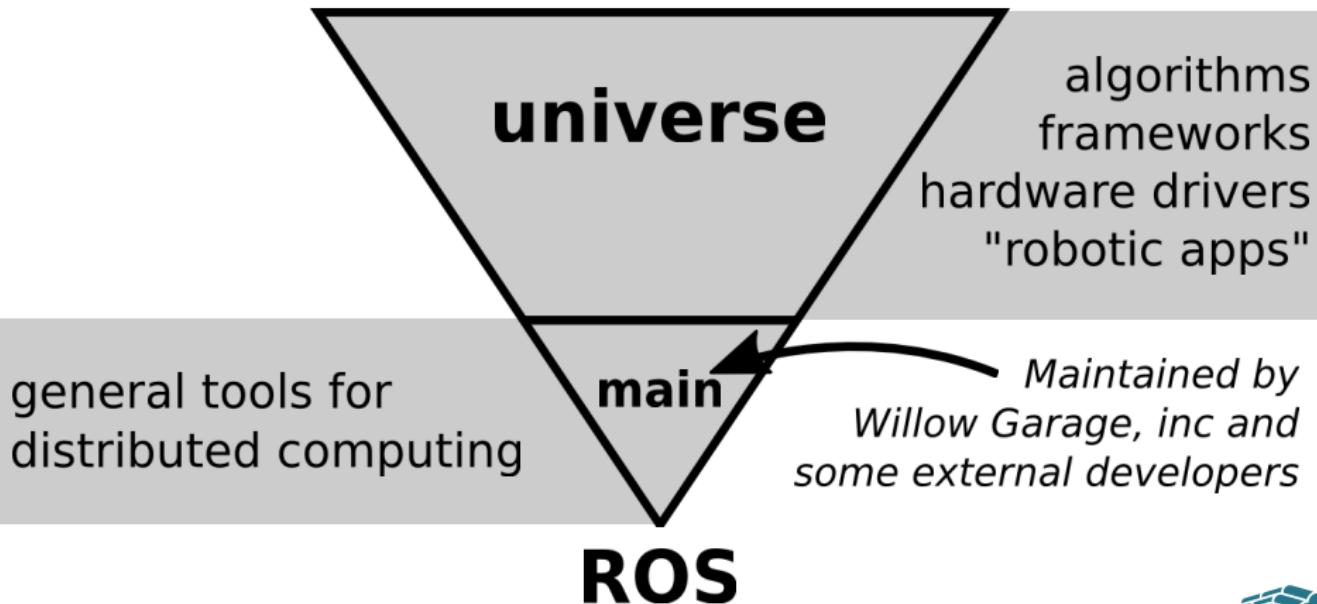
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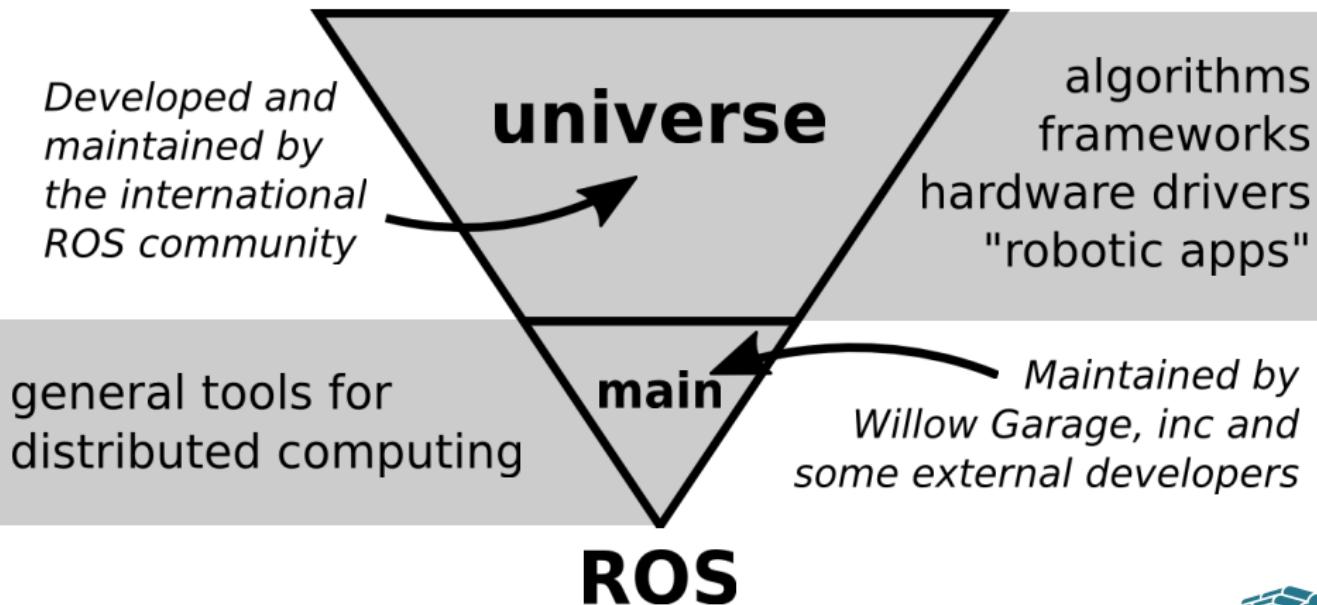
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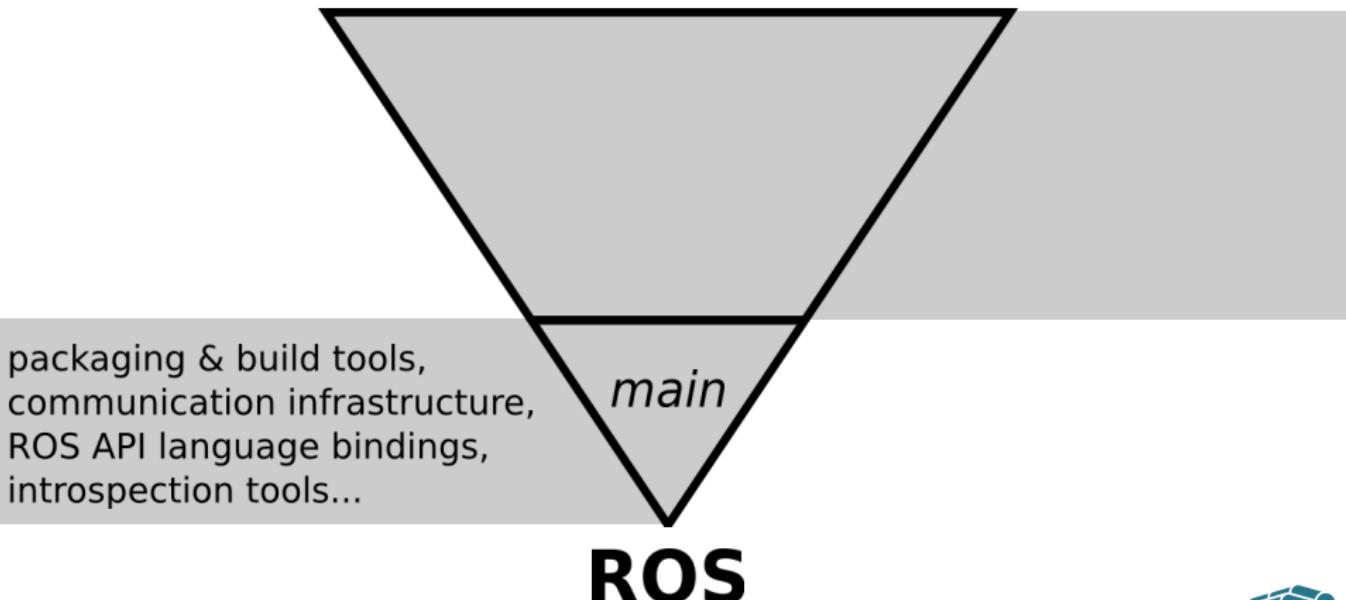
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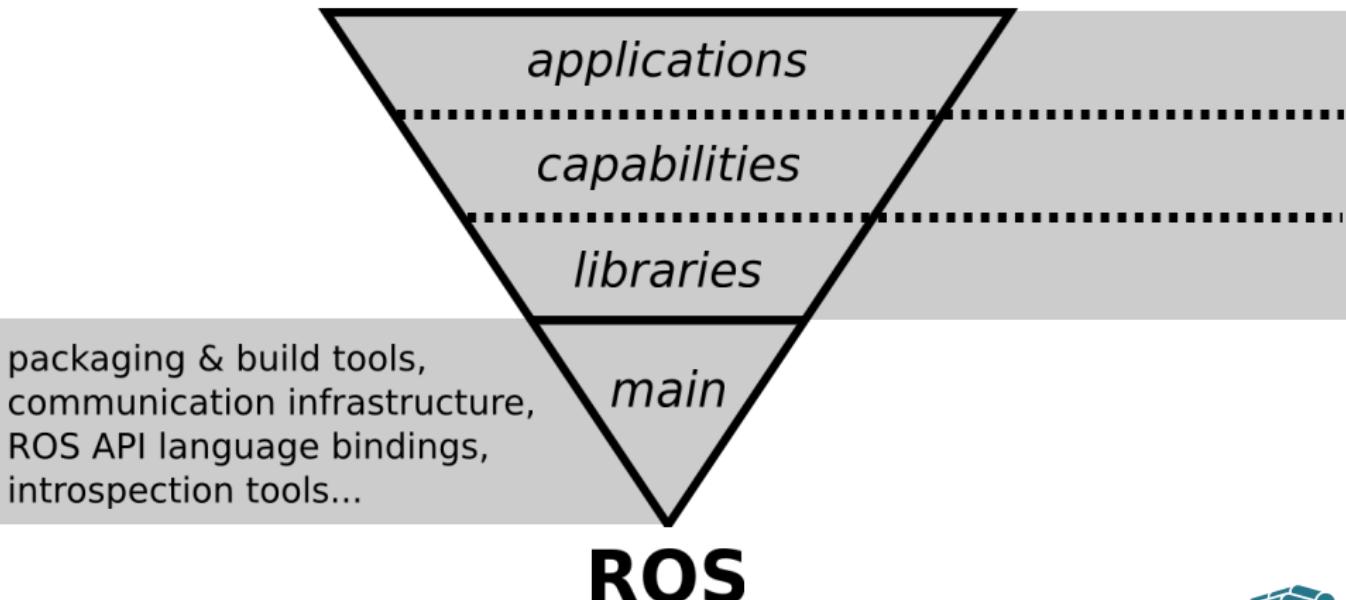
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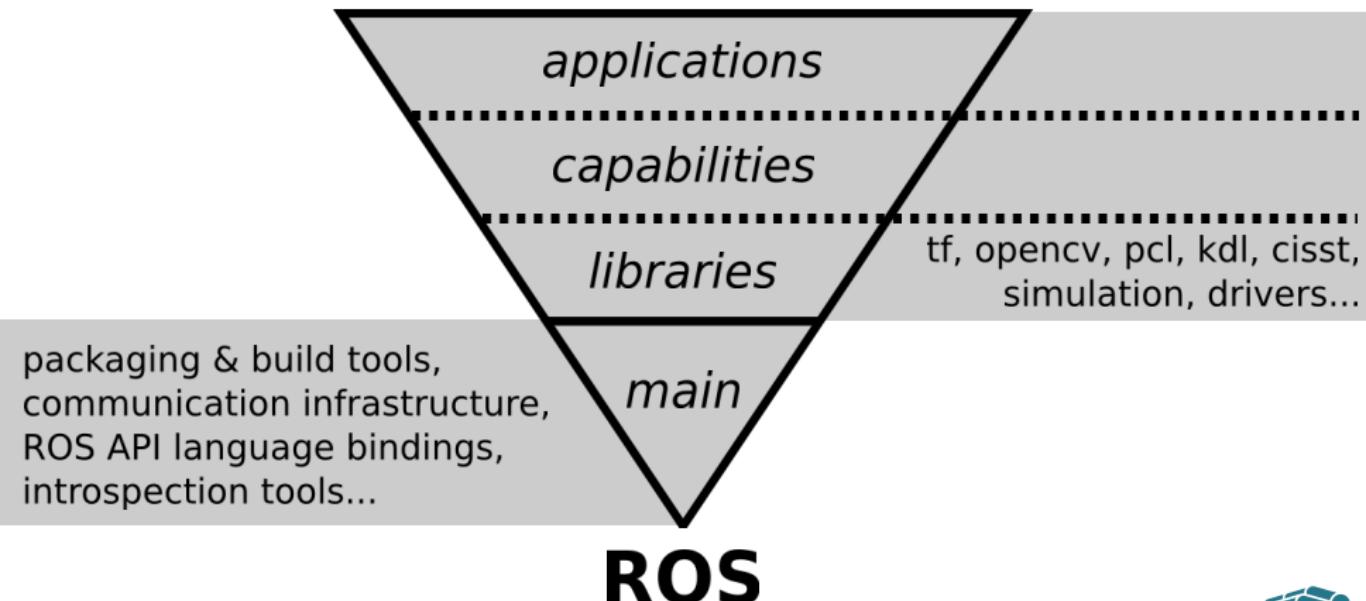
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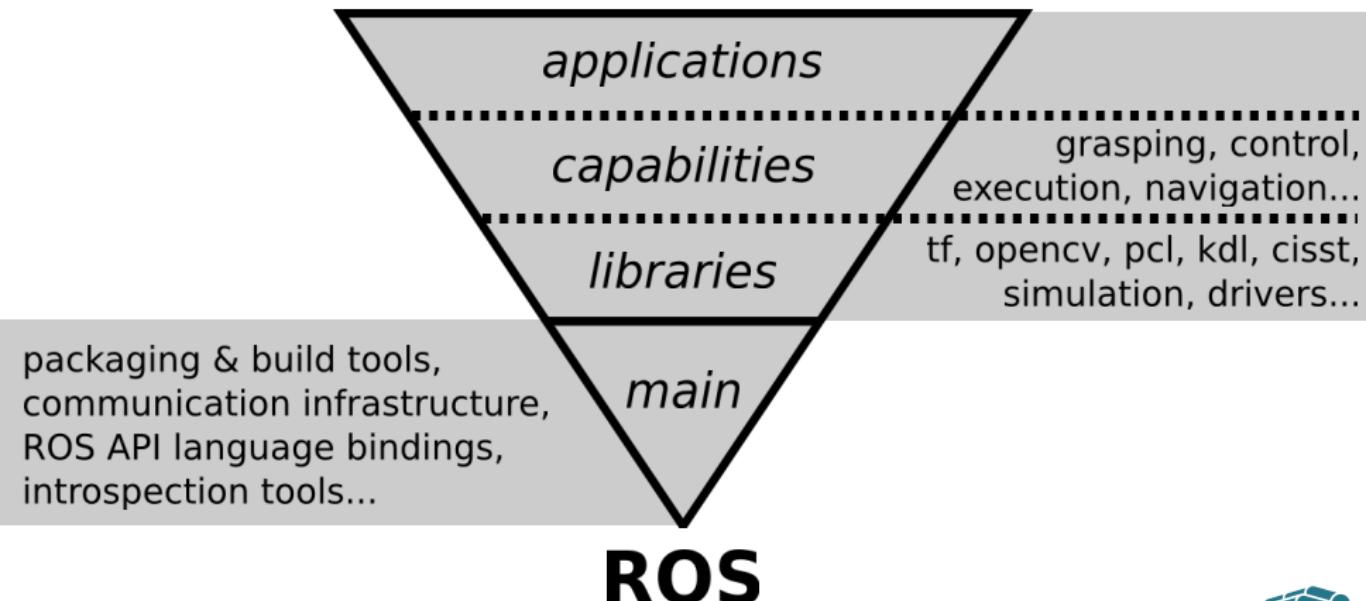
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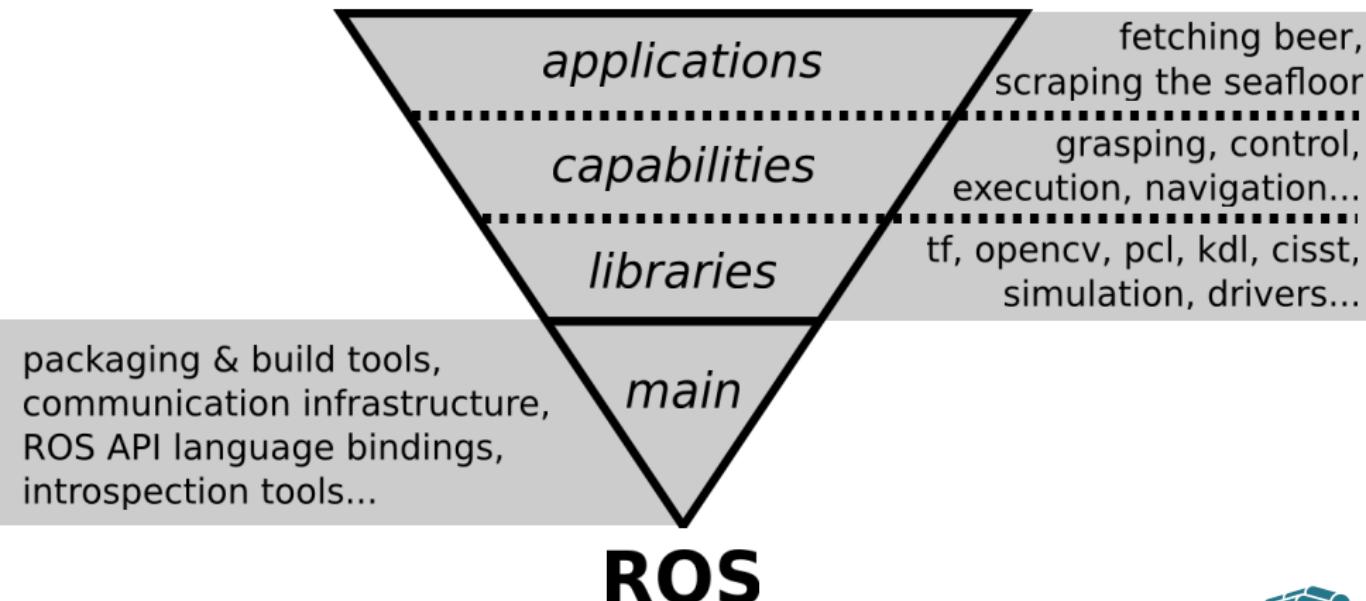
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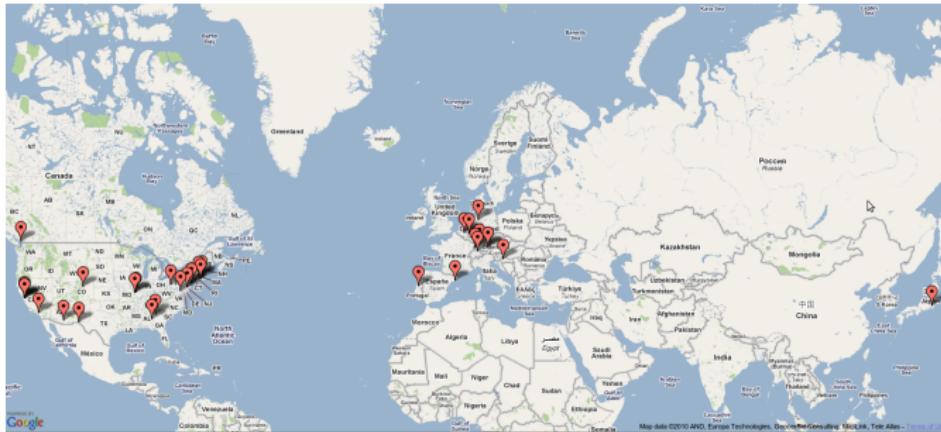
# What does ROS get you?

All levels of development



# The ROS Community

Researchers using common tools to enable collaboration



79 Institutional ROS Repositories, all over the world (July, 2011)

# www.ros.org - The ROS Hub

A centralized location for ROS users and developers

 ROS.org [About](#) | [Support](#) | [answers.ros.org](#)

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**Documentation**

ROS (Robot Operating System) provides libraries and tools to help software developers create robot applications. It provides hardware abstraction, device drivers, libraries, visualizers, message-passing, package management, and more.

ROS:

- [Install](#)  
Install ROS on your machine.
- [Getting Started](#)  
Tutorials, technical overview, and links to [getting help](#). Also, check out the [ROScheatSheet.pdf](#)
- [Contribute](#)  
How to contribute to the ROS community, such as submitting your own [repository](#).

Software:

- [Core Libraries](#)  
APIs by language and topic.
- [Common Tools](#)  
Common tools for developing and debugging ROS software.
- [Search Software](#)  
Search the 2000+ libraries available for ROS.

Robot/Hardware:

- [Robots](#)  
Robots that you can use with ROS.
- [Sensors](#)  
Sensor drivers for ROS.
- [Driver Tutorials](#)  
Tutorials for supported hardware.

Publications, Courses, and Events:

- [Papers](#)  
Published papers with open source implementations available.
- [Courses](#)  
Courses using or teaching ROS.
- [Events](#)  
Past events and materials based on ROS.

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# answers.ros.org - ROS Questions & Answers

Community-supported help for ROS users

The screenshot shows the homepage of answers.ros.org. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'ANSWERS', 'questions', 'tags', 'people', 'badges', and 'ask a question'. Below the navigation is a search bar and a 'sort by' dropdown set to 'activity'. A main content area displays a list of ROS questions. Each question card includes the title, a 'link' button, and a timestamp indicating when it was last updated. To the right of the list is a 'Contributors' section featuring a grid of user profiles, each with a small thumbnail, the number of answers they've provided, and their total votes. At the bottom right, there are sections for 'Interesting tags' and 'Ignored tags'.

- Using a python node in parallel mode
- Using the "Player" package
- How much horsepower is needed to run the kinect stack
- how to set JAVA\_HOME in launch file?
- add a new frame to the tree
- upgrade to 11.04, or wait?
- Planner for non-holonomic/differential constraints
- error installing openni\_kinect
- Iterate points for OpenCV's Line function
- tablet segmentation fails (eigen error)
- Error installing ROS on MacBook Pro OS X 10.6.7
- installing turtlebot software on beagleboard.
- velodyne\_ransac lidium mismatch
- depth wrong using openni\_camera depth image
- turtlebot with gyro but no Kinect

# ros mailing lists

Getting in touch with the developer community

- ▶ ROS Users - *for general ROS-related discussions*  
<https://code.ros.org/mailman/listinfo/ros-users>
- ▶ Other Lists & List Archives  
<http://code.ros.org/lurker>

# Outline

1. Overview
2. ROS Communication Layer
3. ROS Build System
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# ROS Core

Where it all comes together

- ▶ **ROS Master**
  - ▶ A centralized XML-RPC server
  - ▶ Negotiates communication connections
  - ▶ Registers and looks up names for ROS graph resources
- ▶ **Parameter Server**  
Stores persistent configuration parameters and other arbitrary data
- ▶ **rosout**  
Essentially a network-based std::cout for human-readable messages

# ROS “Graph” Abstraction

Named network resources

ROS graph resources:

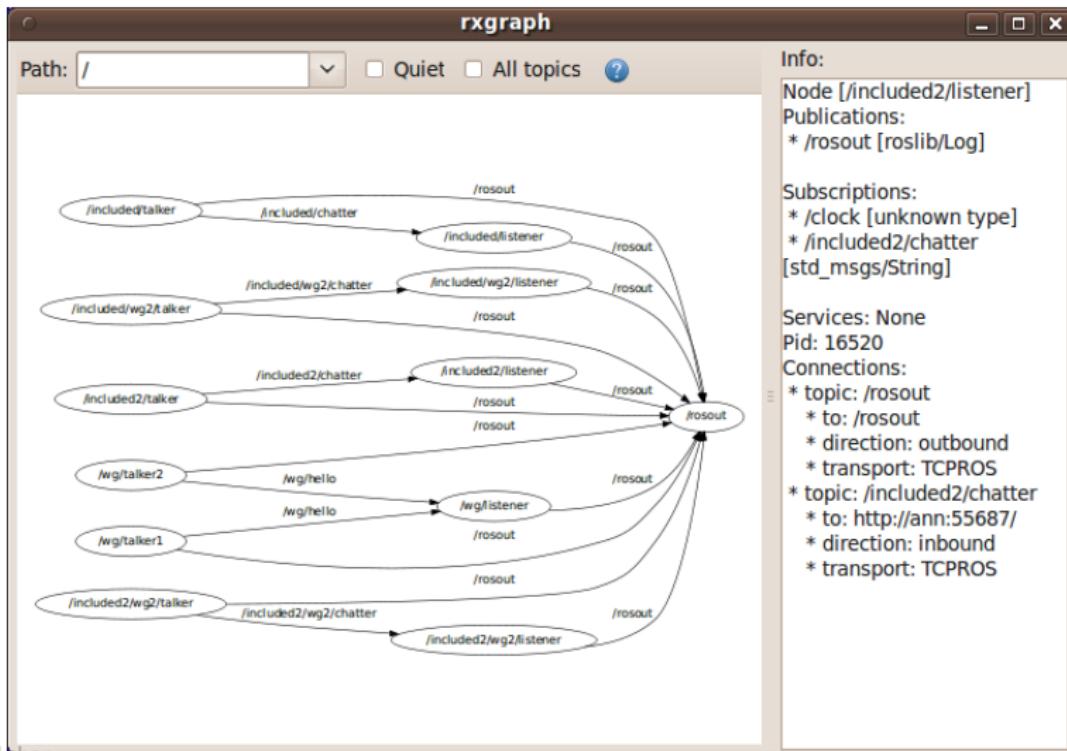
- ▶ **nodes**
  - ▶ processes
  - ▶ produce and consume data
- ▶ **parameters**
  - ▶ persistent data storage
  - ▶ configuration, initialization settings
  - ▶ stored on parameter server
- ▶ **topics**

Asynchronous many-to-many communication streams.
- ▶ **services**

Synchronous one-to-many network-based functions.

# ROS “Graph”

rxgraph: communication network visualization



# Creating and Running ROS Nodes

## Distributing computation with ROS

### Launch files

- ▶ XML files for launching nodes
- ▶ associate a set of parameters and nodes with a single file
- ▶ hierarchically compose collections of other launch files
- ▶ automatically re-spawn nodes if they crash
- ▶ change node names, namespaces, topics, and other resource names *without* recompiling
- ▶ easily distribute nodes across multiple machines

# Example Launch File

## Example launch file

```
<launch>
  <node name="my_node" pkg="foo" type="bar">
    <remap from="/base_laser/scan" to="scan" />
    <rosparam>
      use_foo: True
      frame_id: base_laser
    </rosparam>
  </node>
</launch>
```

- ▶ Launch with `roslaunch` package `foo.launch`

# ROS Communication Protocols

Connecting nodes over the network

- ▶ **ROS Topics**

- ▶ Asynchronous “stream-like” communication
- ▶ Strongly-typed (ROS .msg spec)
- ▶ Can have one or more **publishers**
- ▶ Can have one or more **subscribers**

- ▶ **ROS Services**

- ▶ Synchronous “function-call-like” communication
- ▶ Strongly-typed (ROS .srv spec)
- ▶ Can have only one **server**
- ▶ Can have one or more **clients**

- ▶ **Actions**

- ▶ Built on top of topics
- ▶ Long running processes
- ▶ Cancellation

# Asynchronous Distributed Communication

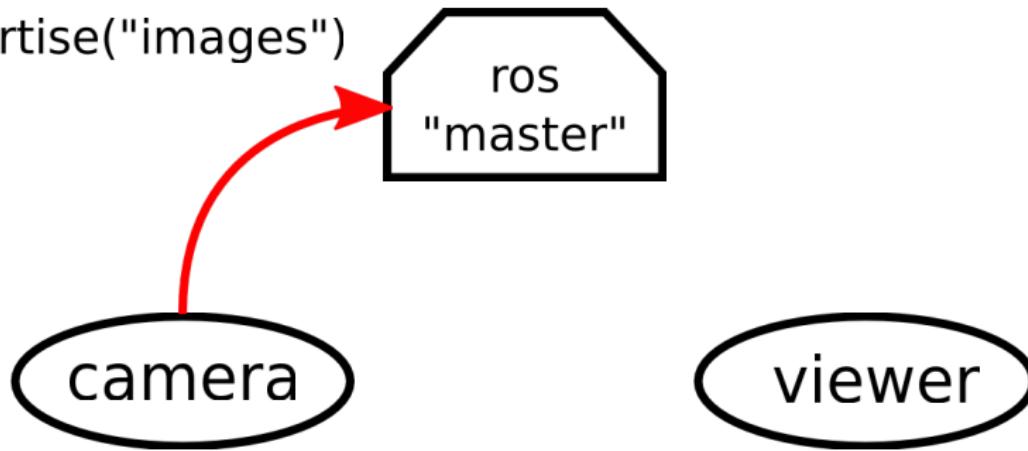
ROS TCP Topics



# Asynchronous Distributed Communication

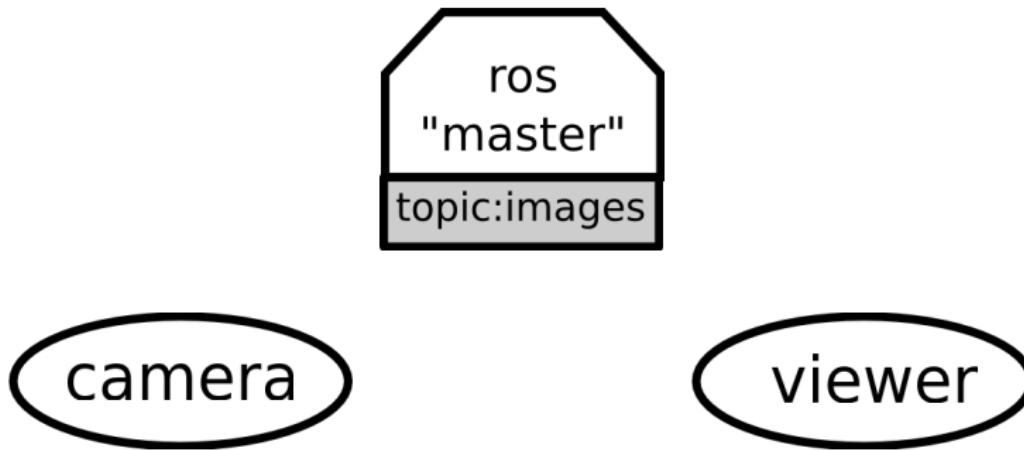
ROS TCP Topics

`advertise("images")`



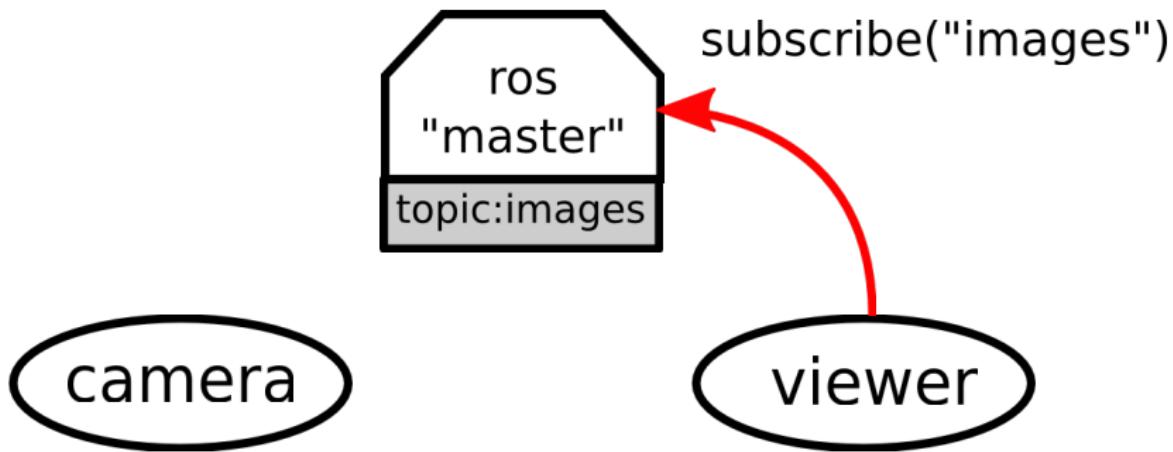
# Asynchronous Distributed Communication

## ROS TCP Topics



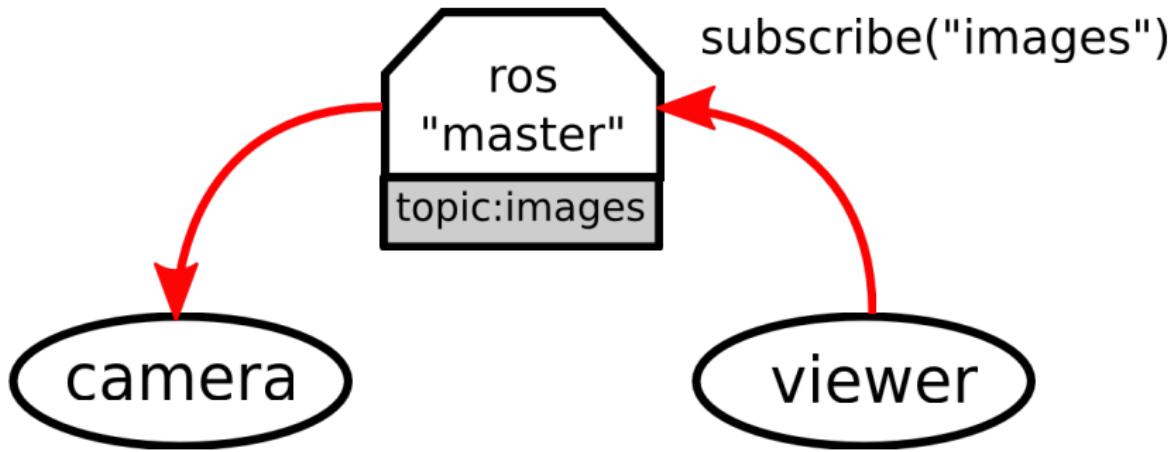
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ROS TCP Topics



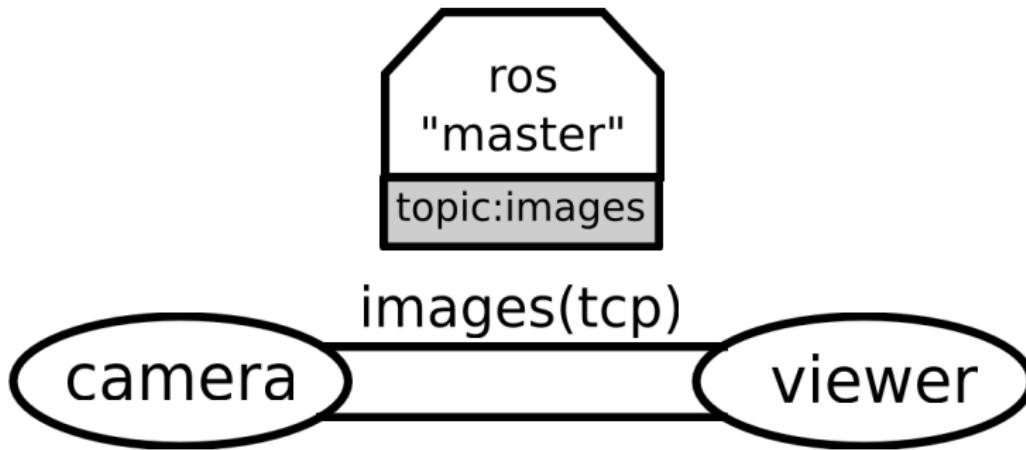
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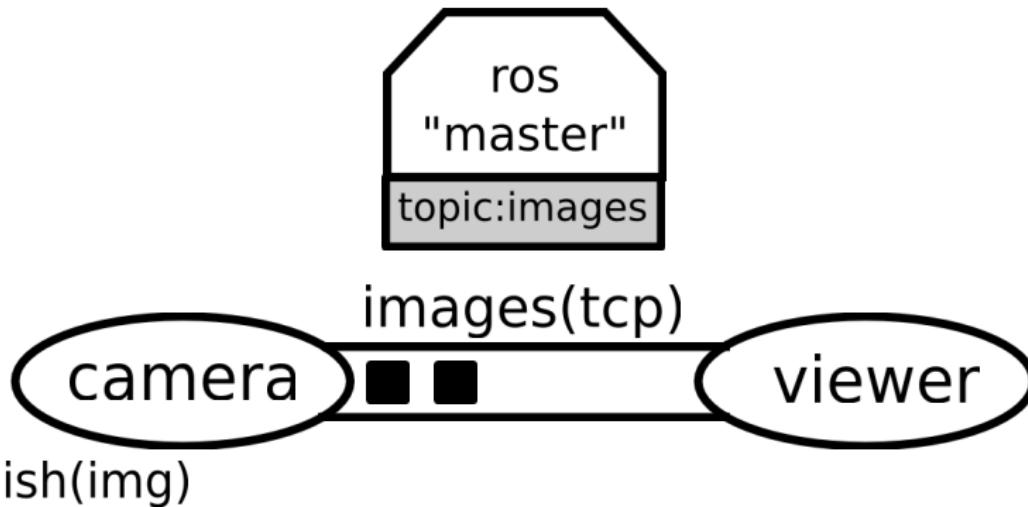
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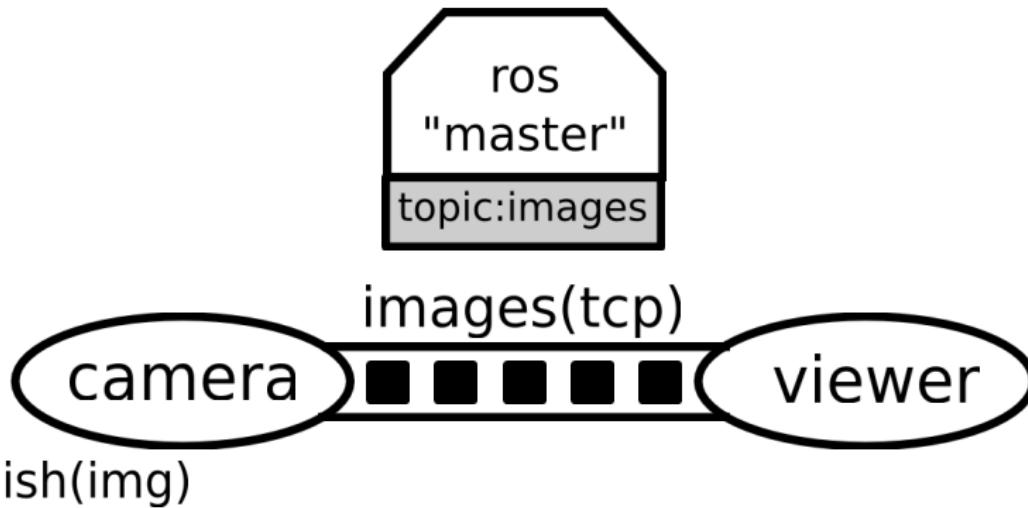
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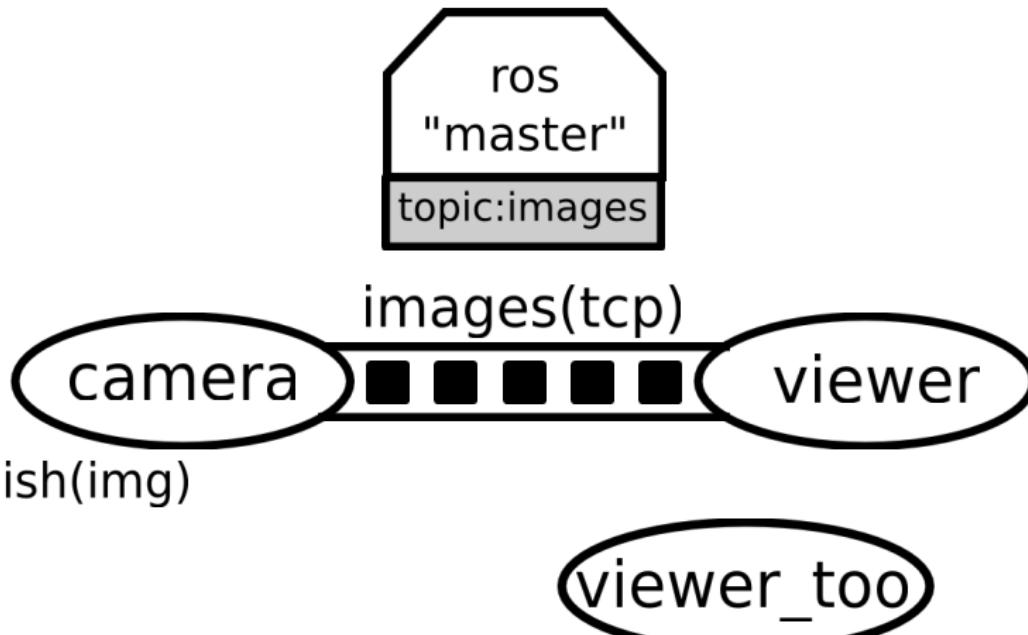
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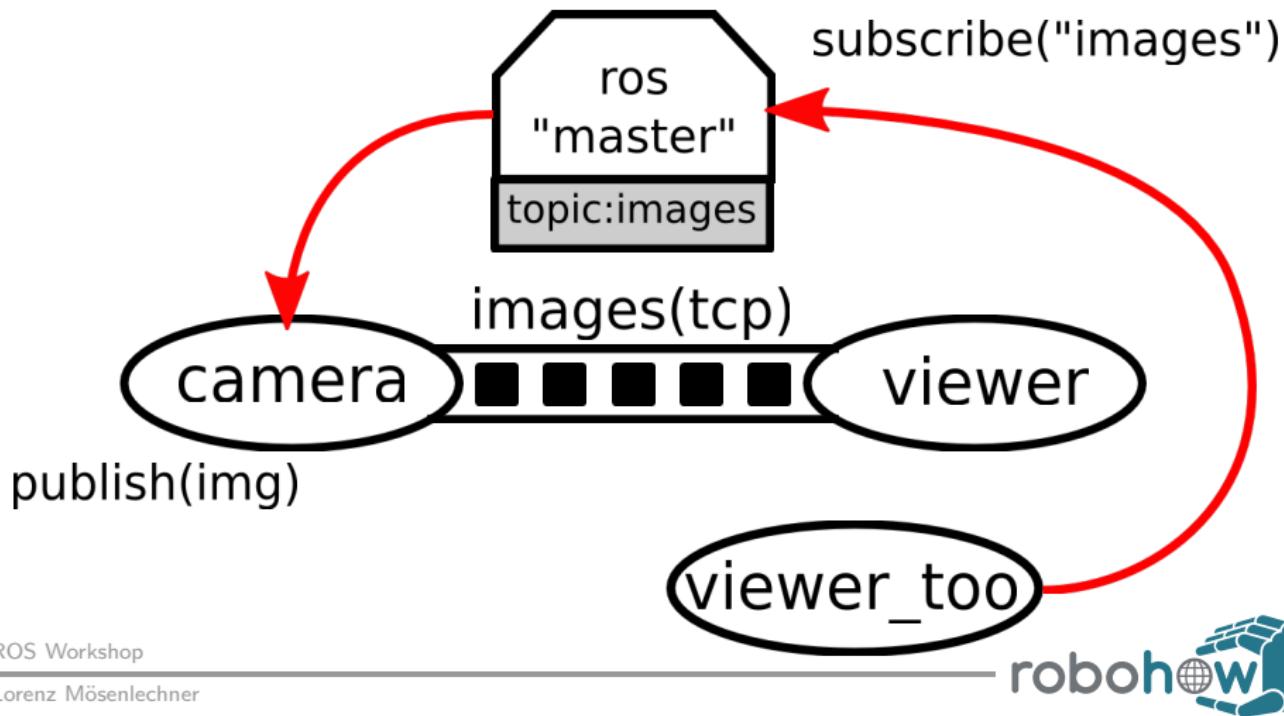
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## ROS TCP Topics



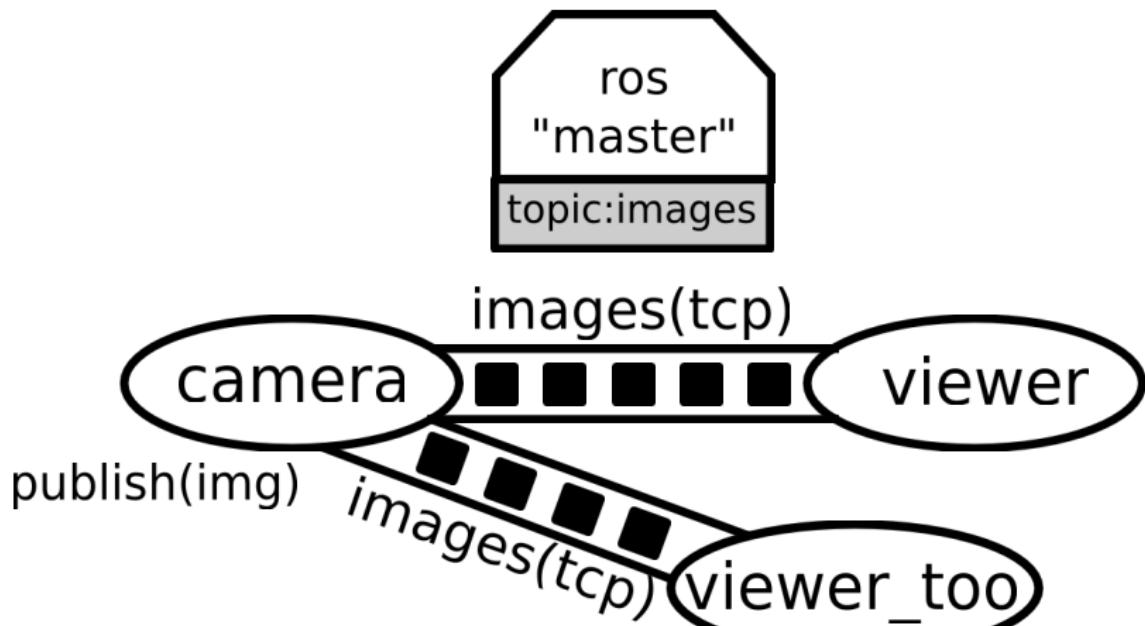
# Asynchronous Distributed Communication

## ROS TCP Topics



# Asynchronous Distributed Communication

## ROS TCP Topics



# Debugging

## rosout

ROS provides mechanisms in all languages for specifying different *levels* of human-readable log messages.

The five default levels are:

- ▶ fatal
- ▶ error
- ▶ warn
- ▶ info
- ▶ debug

Corresponding logging commands (C++):

- ▶ `ROS_FATAL(...)`
- ▶ `ROS_ERROR(...)`
- ▶ `ROS_WARN(...)`
- ▶ `ROS_INFO(...)`
- ▶ `ROS_DEBUG(...)`

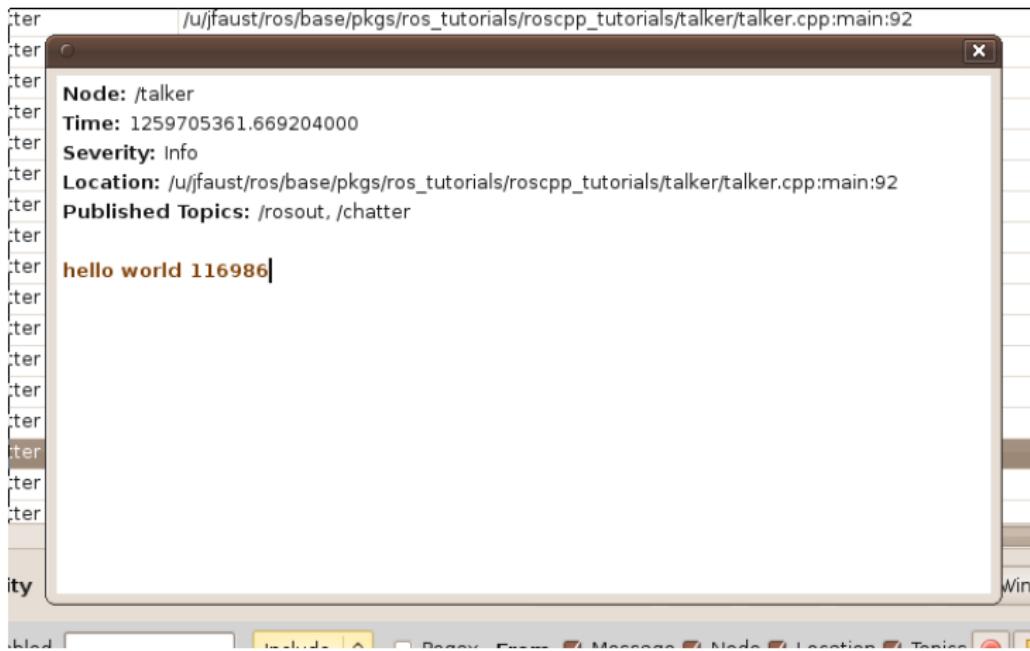
# Debugging

## rxconsole

Message	Severity	Node	Time
INFO [talker] hello world 78866	Info	/talker	1259701549.969195000
INFO [talker] hello world 78867	Info	/talker	1259701550.069209000
INFO [talker] hello world 78868	Info	/talker	1259701550.169192000
INFO [talker] hello world 78872	Info	/talker	1259701550.269198000
INFO [talker] hello world 78873	Info	/talker	1259701550.369194000
INFO [talker] hello world 78874	Info	/talker	1259701550.469195000
INFO [talker] hello world 78875	Info	/talker	1259701550.569196000
INFO [talker] hello world 78876	Info	/talker	1259701550.669191000
INFO [talker] hello world 78877	Info	/talker	1259701550.769193000
INFO [talker] hello world 78878	Info	/talker	1259701550.869224000
INFO [talker] hello world 78879	Info	/talker	1259701550.969351000
INFO [talker] hello world 78880	Info	/talker	1259701551.069208000
INFO [talker] hello world 78881	Info	/talker	1259701551.169190000
INFO [talker] hello world 78882	Info	/talker	1259701551.269193000
INFO [talker] hello world 78883	Info	/talker	1259701551.369193000
INFO [talker] hello world 78884	Info	/talker	1259701551.469194000
INFO [talker] hello world 78885	Info	/talker	1259701551.569194000
INFO [talker] hello world 78886	Info	/talker	1259701551.669190000
INFO [talker] hello world 78887	Info	/talker	1259701551.769207000
INFO [talker] hello world 78888	Info	/talker	1259701551.869196000
INFO [talker] hello world 78889	Info	/talker	1259701551.969193000
INFO [talker] hello world 78890	Info	/talker	1259701552.069209000
INFO [talker] hello world 78891	Info	/talker	1259701552.169190000
INFO [talker] hello world 78892	Info	/talker	1259701552.269193000
INFO [talker] hello world 78893	Info	/talker	1259701552.369192000

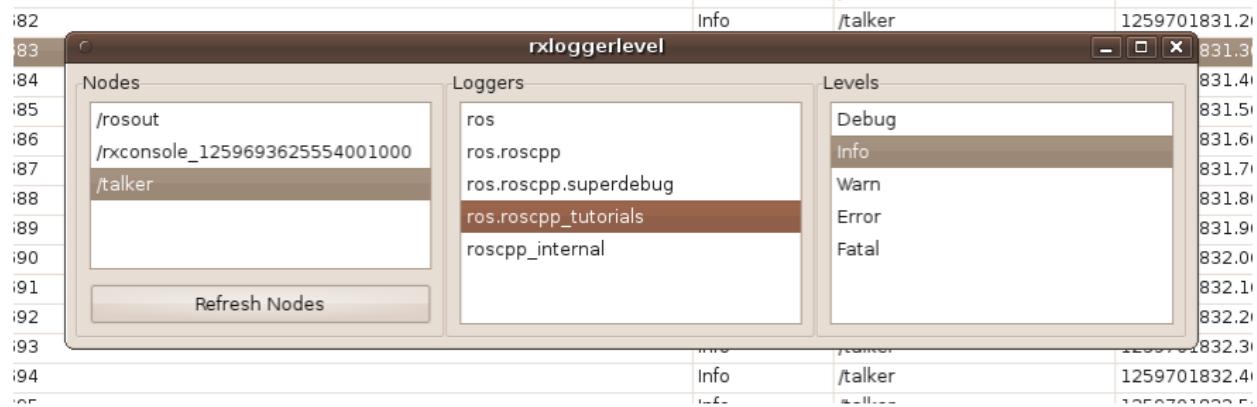
# Debugging

## rxconsole



# Debugging

## rxconsole



# ROS Graph Introspection

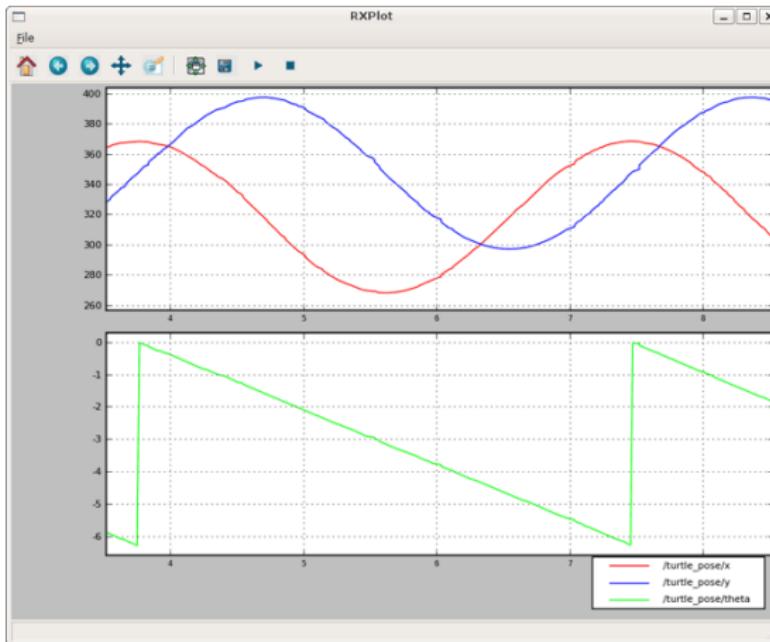
No more wireshark

ROS provides several tools for analyzing the data flowing over ROS communication resources:

- ▶ **rosnode**  
Gives a user information about a node: publications, subscriptions, etc
- ▶ **rostopic**  
Gives datarate, actual data, publishers, subscribers
- ▶ **rosservice**  
Enables a user to call a ROS Service from the command line
- ▶ **roswtf** (wire trouble finder)  
Diagnoses problems with a ROS network

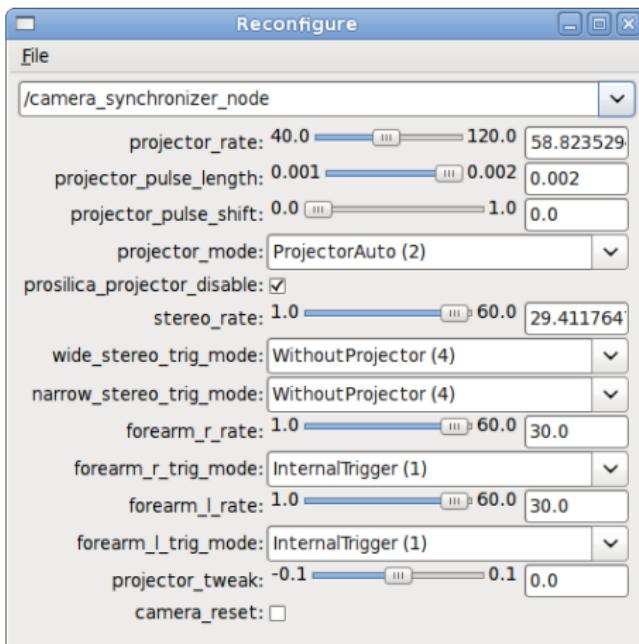
# ROS GUI Tools

There are lots...



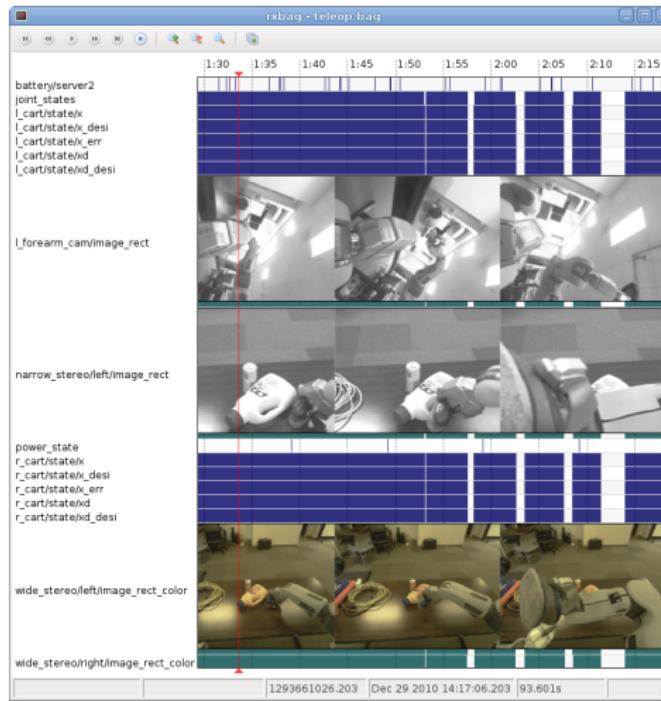
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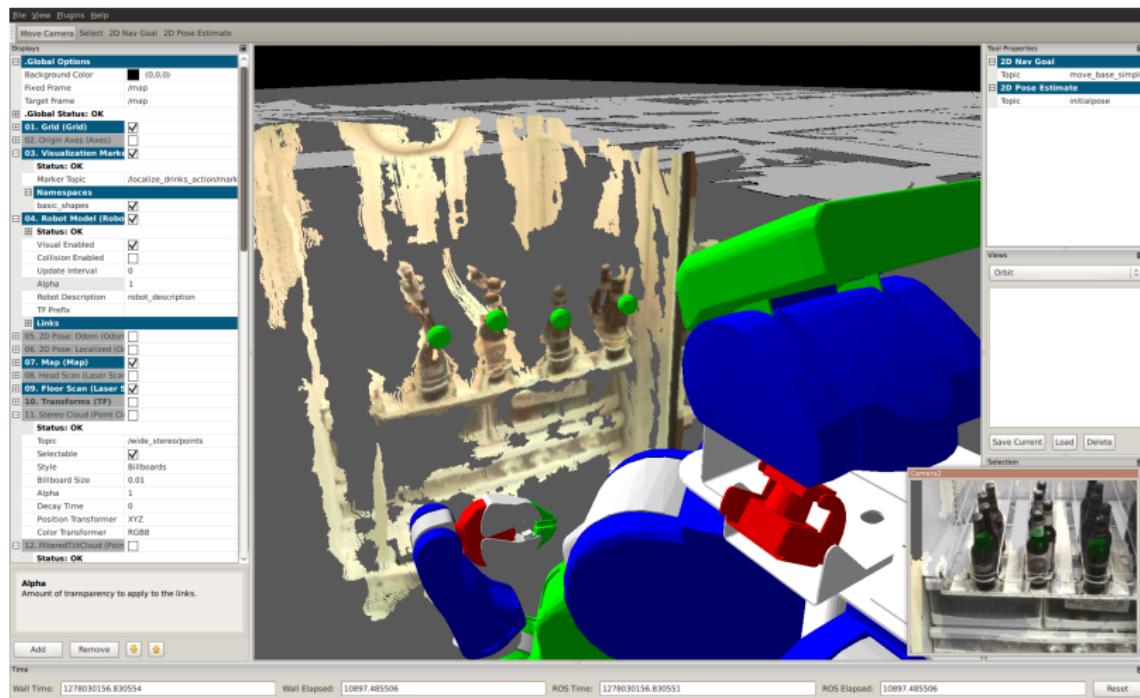
# ROS GUI Tools

There are lots...



# rviz - 3D Visualization

## Modular state and sensor visualization



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# ROS Stacks & Packages

How to organize code in a ROS ecosystem

ROS code is grouped at two different levels:

- ▶ **Packages**

A named collection of software that is built and treated as an atomic dependency in the ROS build system.

- ▶ **Stacks**

A named collection of packages for distribution.

# ROS Distributions

Delivering ROS packages to the masses

- source code
- header declarations
- scripts
- message definitions
- service definitions
- configuration files
- launch files
- metadata
- ...

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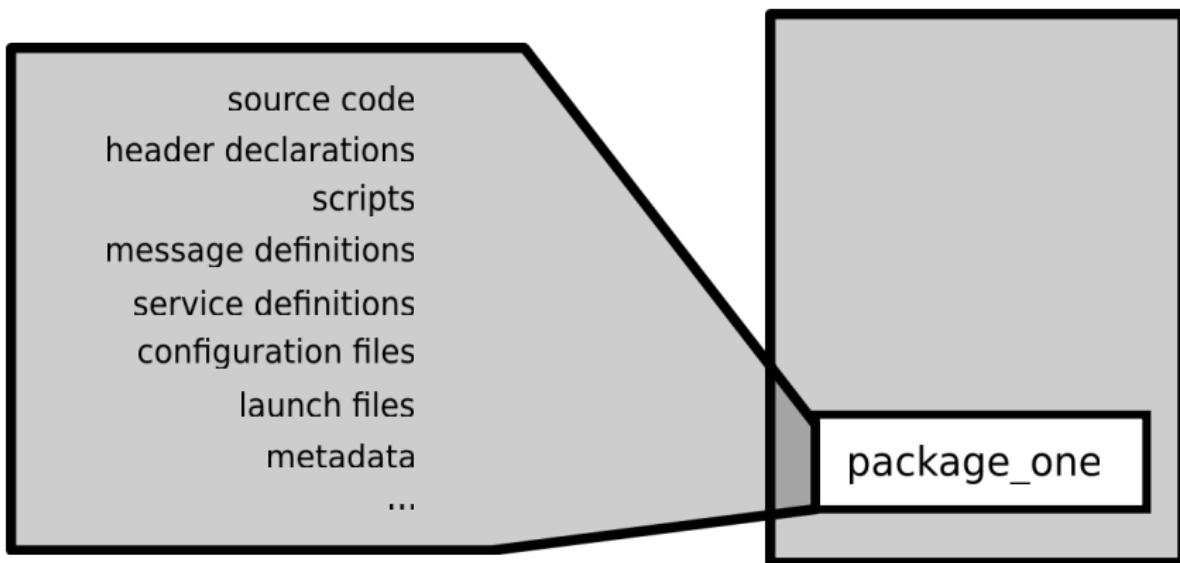


"stack"



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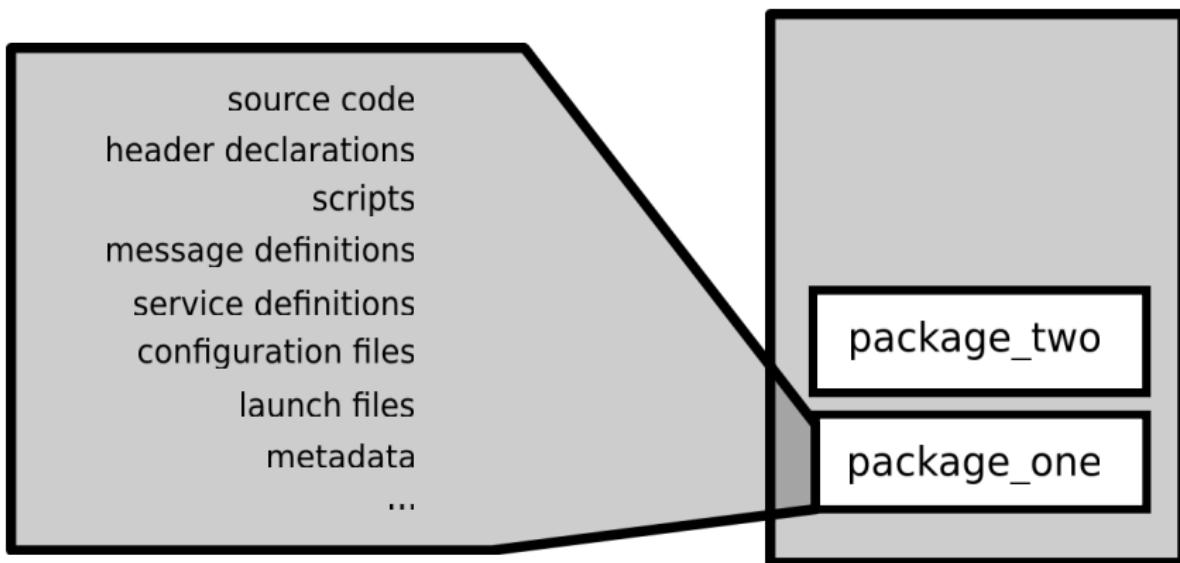


**"package"**

**"stack"**

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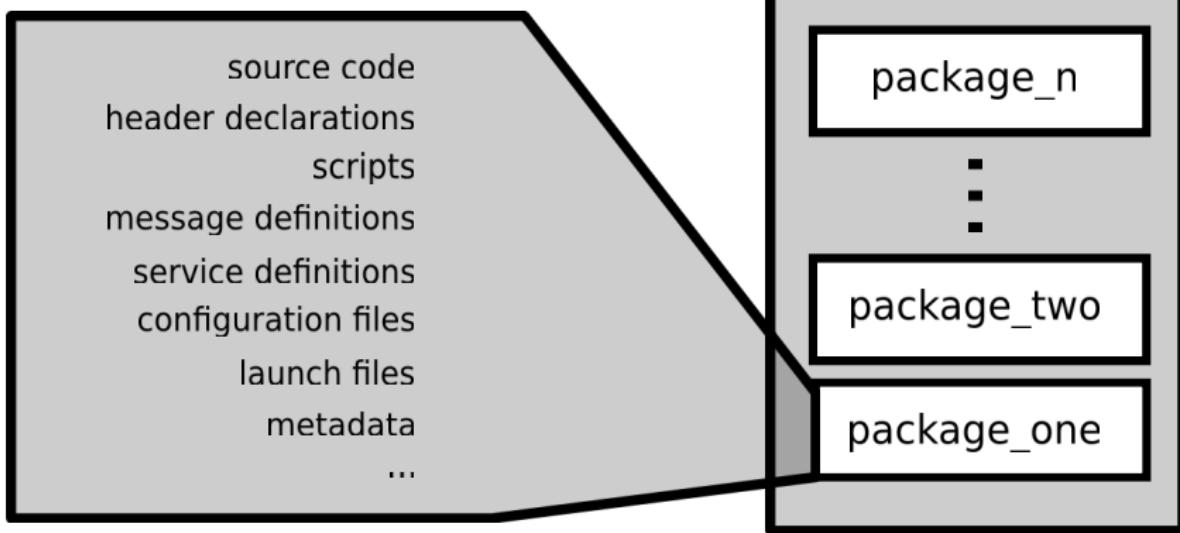


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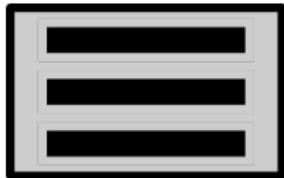


**"package"**

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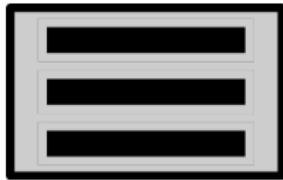
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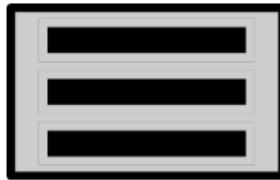
stack\_a-0.4.0

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Delivering ROS packages to the masses



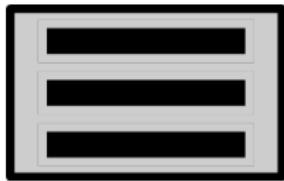
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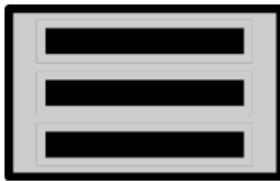
stack\_b-1.0.2

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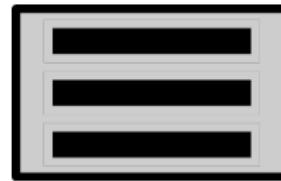


stack\_a-0.4.0



stack\_b-1.0.2

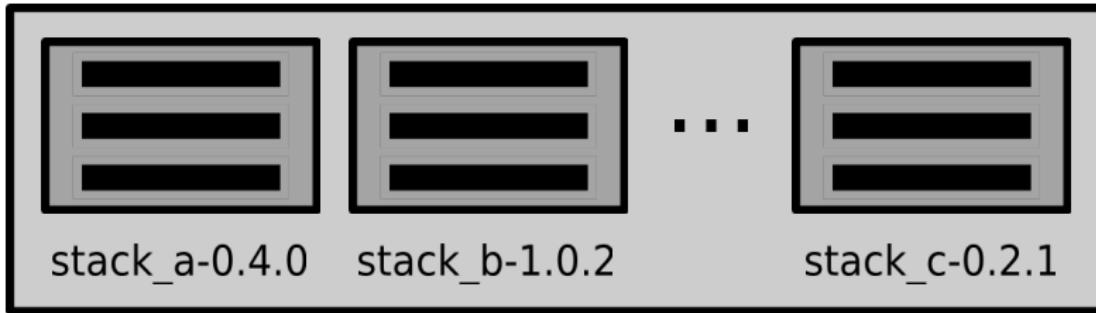
...



stack\_c-0.2.1

# ROS Distributions

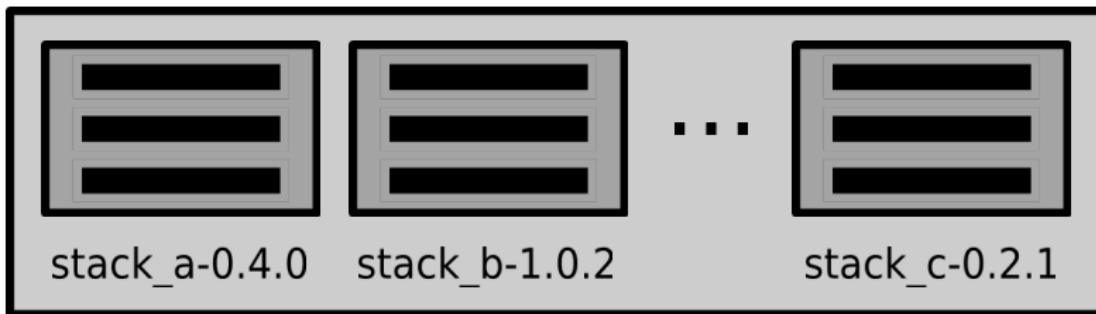
Delivering ROS packages to the masses



**"distribution"**

# ROS Distributions

Delivering ROS packages to the masses



## "distribution"

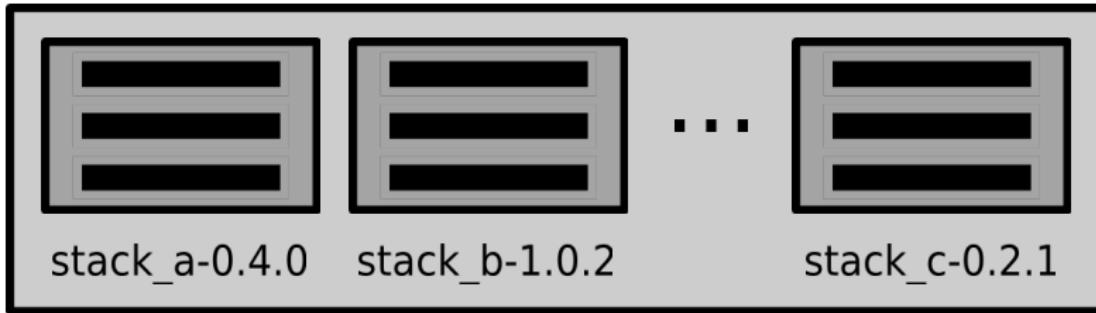
*ROS "Box Turtle"  
March 2, 2010*

*ROS "C-Turtle"  
August 2, 2010*

*ROS "Diamondback"  
March 2, 2011*

# ROS Distributions

Delivering ROS packages to the masses



## "distribution"

*ROS "Box Turtle"  
March 2, 2010*

*ROS "C-Turtle"  
August 2, 2010*

*ROS "Diamondback"  
March 2, 2011*

**Future:** *ROS "Elecrtic Emys"  
August, 2011*

# ROS Meta-Filesystem

## Increasing codebase flexibility

The minimal representation of a ROS package is a directory in the `$ROS_PACKAGE_PATH` which contains a single file:

- ▶ `manifest.xml`
  - ▶ Contains package metadata (author, license, url, etc)
  - ▶ Specifies *system* and *package* dependencies
  - ▶ Specifies language-specific *export* flags
- ▶ `CMakeLists.txt`: contains ROS build rules (executables, libraries, custom build flags, etc)
- ▶ `Makefile`: just a proxy to build *this* package
- ▶ Create package with `roscreate-pkg`  
`$ roscreate-pkg foo roscpp std_msgs`
- ▶ Build package with `rosmake`  
`$ rosmake foo`

# ROS Packages

## The manifest.xml file

```
<package>
  <description brief="foo">
    foo
  </description>
  <author>Lorenz Moesenlechner</author>
  <license>BSD</license>
  <review status="unreviewed" notes="" />
  <url>http://ros.org/wiki/foo</url>
  <depend package="roscpp" />
  <depend package="std_msgs" />
</package>
```

# ROS Packages

## The CMakeLists.txt file

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 2.4.6)
include($ENV{ROS_ROOT}/core/rosbuild/rosbuild.cmake)

rosbuild_init()

set(EXECUTABLE_OUTPUT_PATH ${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR}/bin)
set(LIBRARY_OUTPUT_PATH ${PROJECT_SOURCE_DIR}/lib)

rosbuild_genmsg()
rosbuild_gensrv()

rosbuild_add_library(foo src/foo.cpp)
rosbuild_add_executable(hello_world src/hello_world.cpp)
```

# Outline

1. Overview
2. ROS Communication Layer
3. ROS Build System
4. Programming with ROS
5. The TF Library

# ROSCPP

- ▶ Initialization with `ros::init`:
  - ▶ register at core
  - ▶ set up remappings
  - ▶ set up networking
- ▶ `ros::NodeHandle` as interface to topics, services and parameters
- ▶ `ros::NodeHandle::subscribe`, `ros::NodeHandle::advertise` for topics
- ▶ `ros::spin` and `ros::spinOnce` to process ROS messages
- ▶ Use `boost::bind` to use member functions as callbacks:

```
boost::bind( Listener::laserCb , this , _1 );
```

# Messages

- ▶ defined in `package-name/msg/*.msg` files, sent over topics
- ▶ basic data types:
  - ▶ `int{8,16,32,64}`
  - ▶ `float{32,64}`
  - ▶ `string`
  - ▶ `time`
  - ▶ `duration`
  - ▶ `array[]`
- ▶ Example: `Point.msg`

```
float64 x  
float64 y  
float64 z
```

# Simple Publisher (C++)

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    ros::init(argc, argv, "talker");
    ros::NodeHandle nh;

    ros::Publisher pub =
        nh.advertise<std_msgs::String>("chatter", 1000);
    ros::Rate loop_rate(10);

    while(ros::ok()) {
        std_msgs::String msg;
        msg.data = "hello_world";
        pub.publish(msg)
        ros::spinOnce();
        loop_rate.sleep();
    }
    return 0;
}
```

# Simple Subscriber (C++)

```
void msgCallback(const std_msgs::String::ConstPtr &msg) {
    ROS_INFO("Message: %s", msg->data.c_str());
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    ros::init(argc, argv, "talker");
    ros::NodeHandle nh;

    ros::Subscriber sub =
        nh.subscribe<std_msgs::String>("chatter",
                                         1000, msgCallback);

    ros::spin();

    return 0;
}
```

# Services

- ▶ Defined in package-name/srv/\*.srv.
- ▶ Definition similar to message files, Request message + response message.
- ▶ Example: beginner\_tutorials/AddTwoInts

```
int64 a
```

```
int64 b
```

```
---
```

```
int64 sum
```

# Service Client

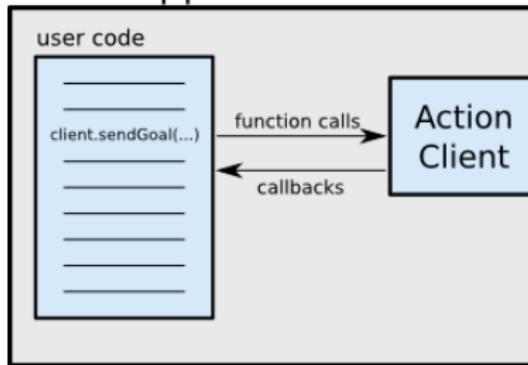
```
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ros::init(argc, argv, "add_two_ints_client");
    ros::NodeHandle n;
    ros::ServiceClient client = n.serviceClient<AddTwoInts>(
        "add_two_ints");
    AddTwoInts srv;
    srv.request.a = 1;
    srv.request.b = 2;
    if (client.call(srv)) {
        ROS_INFO("Sum: %ld", (long int)srv.response.sum);
    } else {
        ROS_ERROR("Failed to call service add_two_ints");
        return 1;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

# Actions

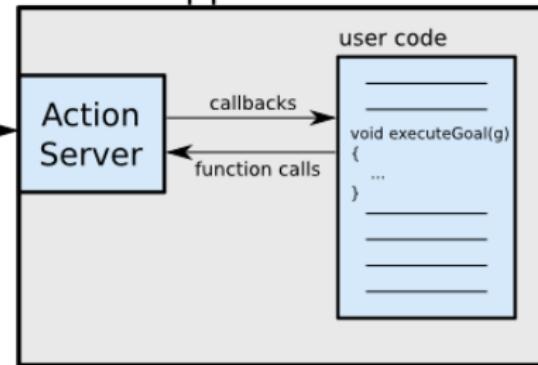
## Using function calls and callbacks

- ▶ request goals (client side)
- ▶ execute goals (server side)

### Client Application



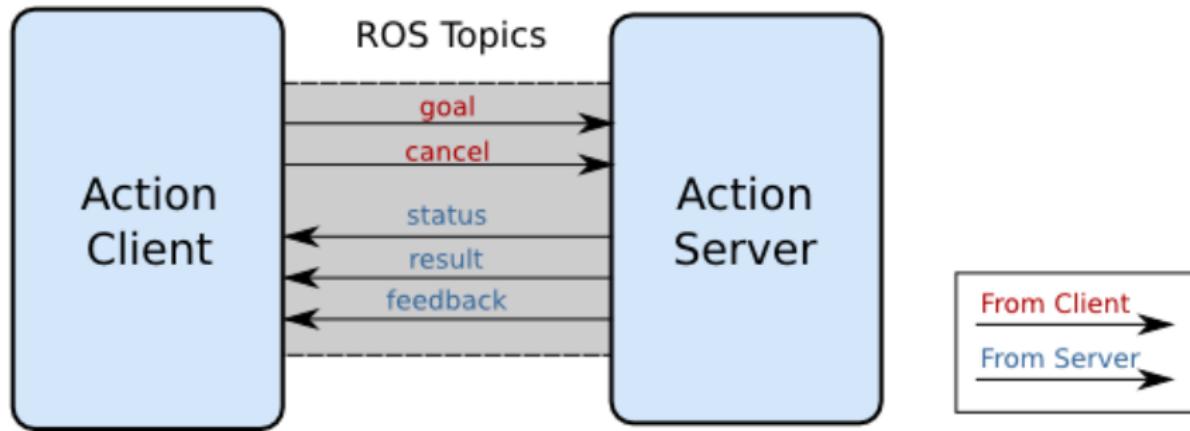
### Server Application



# Actions

- ▶ action protocol relies on ROS topics to transport messages

## Action Interface



# Action Definitions

- ▶ Similar to messages and services.
- ▶ Definition: Request + result + feedback
- ▶ Defined in `ros-package/action/*.action`
- ▶ Generated by CMake macro `genaction()`.
- ▶ Example: `actionlib_tutorials/Fibonacci.action`

```
#goal definition
int32 order
---

#result definition
int32[] sequence
---

#feedback
int32[] sequence
```

# Simple Action Client (C++)

```
int main (int argc, char **argv) {
    ros::init(argc, argv, "test_fibonacci");

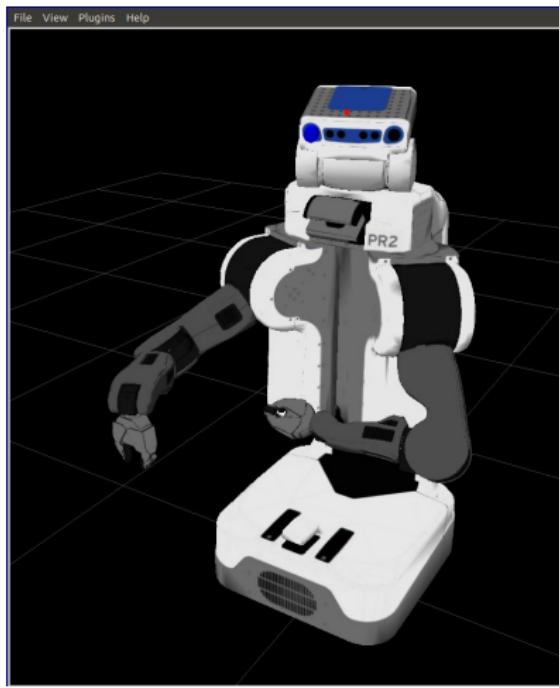
    actionlib::SimpleActionClient<FibonacciAction> ac(
        "fibonacci", true);
    ac.waitForServer();
    learning_actionlib::FibonacciGoal goal;
    goal.order = 20;
    ac.sendGoal(goal);
    bool finished_before_timeout = ac.waitForResult(
        ros::Duration(30.0));

    return 0;
}
```

# Outline

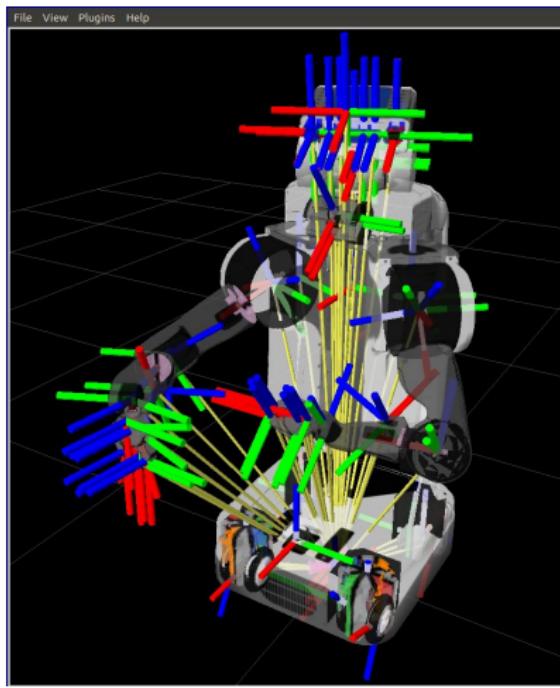
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# Coordinate frames



- ▶ robots consist of many **links**
- ▶ every link describes its own **coordinate system**
- ▶ sensor measurements are local to the corresponding link
- ▶ links change their position over time

# Coordinate frames



- ▶ robots consist of many **links**
- ▶ every link describes its own **coordinate system**
- ▶ sensor measurements are local to the corresponding link
- ▶ links change their position over time

# Transforms are distributed

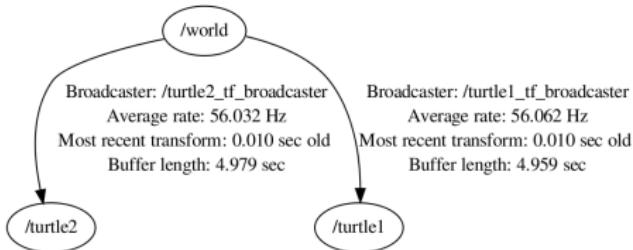
- ▶ Transforms are produced by different nodes:
  - ▶ Localization in map (AMCL, gmapping)
  - ▶ Odometry (base controller)
  - ▶ Joint positions (robot controllers and robot\_state\_publisher)
- ▶ Many publishers, many consumers
- ▶ Distributed system, redundancy issues, ...

# What is TF?

- ▶ decentralized: many publishers, many subscribers
- ▶ A coordinate frame tracking system
  - ▶ standardized protocol for publishing transforms
  - ▶ Classes and methods for looking up, calculating and sending transforms
  - ▶ transforms are published on the /tf topic
- ▶ No central instance managing the tree of transforms
- ▶ Command line tools

# The transform tree

view\_frames Result  
Recorded at time: 1254266629.492



- ▶ Consists of frames (links) and the transforms between them.
- ▶ Each link is cached (10 secs default caching time)
- ▶ Works with multiple disconnected trees
- ▶ Transforms must form a proper tree (no cycles)

# Utilities

- ▶ `rosrun tf tf_echo <source_frame> <target_frame>`
- ▶ `rosrun tf tf_monitor`
- ▶ `rosrun view_frames`
- ▶ `rosrun tf static_transform_publisher`
- ▶ `rviz`

# Utilities

- ▶ `rosrun tf tf_echo <source_frame> <target_frame>`
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## tf\_echo

```
$ rosrun tf tf_echo turtle1 turtle2

Success at 1253585684.557003974
[0.000000 0.000000 0.140754 0.990045] Euler(0.282446 -0.000000 0.000000)
Translation: [-0.000036 -0.000010 0.000000]
Success at 1253585685.544698953
[0.000000 0.000000 0.140754 0.990045] Euler(0.282446 -0.000000 0.000000)
Translation: [-0.000036 -0.000010 0.000000]
Success at 1253585686.557049989
```

# Utilities

- ▶ `rosrun tf tf_echo <source_frame> <target_frame>`
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## tf\_monitor

```
$ rosrun tf tf_monitor
RESULTS: for all Frames

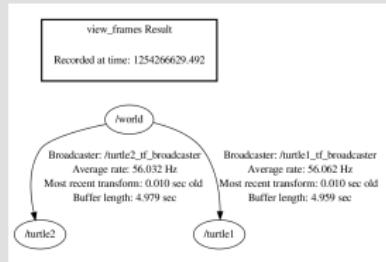
Frames:
Frame: turtle1 published by /turtle1_tf_broadcaster Average Delay: 0.000382455 Max Delay: 0...
Frame: turtle2 published by /turtle2_tf_broadcaster Average Delay: 0.000267847 Max Delay: 0...

All Broadcasters:
Node: /turtle1_tf_broadcaster 64.6996 Hz, Average Delay: 0.000382455 Max Delay: 0.000991178
Node: /turtle2_tf_broadcaster 64.7127 Hz, Average Delay: 0.000267847 Max Delay: 0.00133464
```

# Utilities

- ▶ `rosrun tf tf_echo <source_frame> <target_frame>`
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## view\_frames



# Utilities

- ▶ tf\_echo
- ▶ tf\_monitor
- ▶ view\_frames
- ▶ static\_transform\_publisher
- ▶ rviz

## static\_transform\_publisher

```
$ rosrun tf static_transform_publisher x y z yaw pitch roll frame_id child_frame_id period  
$ rosrun tf static_transform_publisher x y z qx qy qz qw frame_id child_frame_id period
```

# TF data types

- ▶ Transforms and poses
- ▶ `stamped` data types (via ROS header)
- ▶ Header contains time stamp and frame names
- ▶ `StampedTransform` and `PoseStamped`
- ▶ `StampedTransform`: frame name and child frame name

# Publishing transforms

- ▶ Launch files and static\_transform\_publisher
- ▶ URDF, joint states and robot\_state\_publisher
  - ▶ Make a robot description file (URDF) and load it on the parameter server
  - ▶ Implement a node that reads joint states and publishes them
  - ▶ Run the robot\_state\_publisher node
  - ⇒ Simulation tutorial tomorrow for URDF introduction
- ▶ Nodes that publish transforms

# Publishing transforms (C++)

## TransformBroadcaster

```
tf::TransformBroadcaster br;  
  
tf::Transform transform;  
transform.setOrigin(tf::Vector(x, y, z));  
transform.setRotation(  
    tf::createQuaternionFromRPY(yaw, pitch, roll));  
br.sendTransform(  
    tf::StampedTransform(  
        transform, ros::Time::now(), "/map", "/odom"));
```

# Using transforms (C++)

## TransformListener

```
tf::TransformListener listener;
tf::StampedTransform transform;
try {
    listener.lookupTransform(
        "/map", "/r_wrist_roll_link", ros::Time(0),
        transform);
} catch(tf::TransformException ex) {
    ROS_ERROR("%s", ex.what());
}
```

# Using transforms (C++)

## TransformListener

```
tf::TransformListener listener;
tf::StampedTransform transform;
try {
    listener.lookupTransform(
        "/map", "/r_wrist_roll_link", ros::Time(0),
        transform);
} catch(tf::TransformException ex) {
    ROS_ERROR("%s", ex.what());
}
```

- ▶ *canTransform*
- ▶ *lookupTransform*
- ▶ *transformPoint*
- ▶ *transformPose*
- ▶ *transformQuaternion*

# TF and time

- ▶ TF buffers transforms for 10 seconds
- ▶ query transforms in the past
- ▶ TF interpolates frames
- ▶ fixed frame: frame that doesn't move (reference)

# TF and time

## TransformListener methods

```
listener.lookupTransform("/turtle2", "/turtle1",
    ros::Time(0), transform);
```

```
listener.lookupTransform("/turtle2", "/turtle1",
    ros::Time::now(), transform);
```

- ▶ *lookupTransform*
  - ▶ Time 0: return the newest transform
  - ▶ Time now: would lead to an error because TF doesn't do extrapolation

# TF and time

## TransformListener methods

```
listener.lookupTransform("/turtle2", "/turtle1",
    ros::Time(0), transform);

listener.lookupTransform("/turtle2", "/turtle1",
    ros::Time::now(), transform);

ros::Time now = ros::Time::now();
listener.waitForTransform("/turtle2", "/turtle1", now,
    ros::Duration(3.0));
listener.lookupTransform("/turtle2", "/turtle1", now,
    transform);
```

- ▶ *lookupTransform*
  - ▶ Time 0: return the newest transform
  - ▶ Time now: would lead to an error because TF doesn't do extrapolation
- ▶ *waitForTransform*: block until transform is possible

# Time traveling



- ▶ Go where turtle 1 has been 5 secs ago relative turtle 2 now
- ▶ Implementation:
  - ▶ Find transform from turtle 2 to fixed frame now
  - ▶ Find transform from fixed frame to turtle 1 5 secs ago
  - ▶ Multiply the two transforms to get result

# Time traveling



```
listener.waitForTransform(
    "/turtle2", now, "/turtle1", past, "/world",
    ros::Duration(3.0));
listener.lookupTransform(
    "/turtle2", now, "/turtle1", past, "/world",
    transform);
```

# Thank you for your attention

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