Fall 2025 - CSC752 Autonomous Robotic Systems - In-Class Activity 1



Due date: 08/28/2025, 11:00 AM, in-class activity. We will check the results directly in class.

Get to know ROS by inspecting the simulation of an HSR robot.

- 1. Setup the HSR simulation:
 - cd into your local folder csc752.
 - Run xhost +local:root. It grants the root user, running locally, permission to open windows on your X11 display when you are in the docker image.
 - Make sure the docker image is running. If not, start with docker compose up -d.
 - Run docker compose exec --user csc752 isaac-sim bash. It starts the docker image using the user csc752 for the image isaac-sim and opens a bash shell.
 - Once inside the docker environment: s for sourcing the environment inside the docker image and python isaac_sim_hsr_chris.py for starting the entire simulation suite.
- 2. Open another terminal get in the docker container, source, and list rosnodes and rostopics using:

rosnode list

rostopic list

rostopic echo [TOPIC]

rostopic hz [TOPIC]

For more information take a look at the slides or:

http://wiki.ros.org/rostopic

http://wiki.ros.org/rosnode

3. Command a desired velocity to the robot from the terminal (rostopic pub [TOPIC). Search for the right command_velocity topic in a new terminal and publish a left turn by using

```
rostopic pub [TOPIC] geometry_msgs/Twist '{linear: \{x: 0.0, y: 0.0, z: 0.0\}, angular: \{x: 0.0, y: 0.0, z: 0.5\}}'
```

This puts the angular.z component to 0.5, which will make the robot rotate around the z-axis, resulting in a left turn. How many degrees did the robot turn? Suppose the entire command took 2 sec. Remember, the angular speed is in $\frac{rad}{s}$. And degrees = radians $\times \frac{180^{\circ}}{\pi}$.

Publish a 90° left turn, followed by a 1m drive in the x-direction.

4. Use teleop_twist_keyboard to control the moves of the robot through a terminal. Run the command

rosrun teleop_twist_keyboard teleop_twist_keyboard.py cmd_vel:=/hsrb/command_velocity