ROS Beginner Tutorial #11: Writing a Simple Publisher and Subscriber (C++)

If you are starting this tutorial from scratch, do the following:

- Open a new terminal
- cd ~/catkin_ws
- source devel/setup.bash

Now start the steps of the beginner tutorial #11, "Writing the Publisher Node"

- roscd beginner_tutorials
- mkdir -p src % make a standard msg subdirectory for the package
- Then you are to copy the "talker.cpp" tutorial text into src/talker.cpp
 - The tutorial text seems to be error free for ROS Melodic.
- Then copy the "listener.cpp" tutorial text into listener.cpp within the src directory
 - The tutorial text seems to be error free for ROS Melodic

In part 3 of the tutorial (Building your nodes), you are first asked to modify the CMakeLists.txt file (which directs the C++ compiler to properly include, compile, and link all of the bits and pieces)

- The first step of adding 6 lines to the end of the file is correct
- BUT, the complete CMakeLists.txt example is IN ERROR (the file after "Your resulting CMakeLists.txt File should look like this:")
 - \circ $\;$ This code is probably left over from a much older version of ROS. Note, that
 - The file uses the ROS function "genmsg" instead of the ROS function
 "message_generation" which has been used in the most previous tutorials. It is possible to use genmsg, but then you want have to change the package.xml file to use genmsg.
 - The text below is the CMakeLists.txt with the message_generation function used instead of genmsg. This approach does not require modification of the packages.xml file.

cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 2.8.3)
project(beginner_tutorials)

Find catkin macros and libraries find_package(catkin REQUIRED COMPONENTS roscpp rospy std_msgs message_generation)

Generate messages in the 'msg' folder #add_message_files(DIRECTORY msg FILES Num.msg) add_message_files(FILES Num.msg)

Generate services in the 'srv' folder # add_service_files(DIRECTORY srv FILES AddTwoInts.srv) add_service_files(FILES AddTwoInts.srv)

Generate added messages and services
generate_messages(DEPENDENCIES std_msgs)

catkin specific configuration
catkin_package()

include_directories(include S{catkin_INCLUDE_DIRS})

add_executable(talker src/talker.cpp)
target_link_libraries(talker \${catkin_LIBRARIES})
add_dependencies(talker beginner_tutorials_generate_message_cpp)

add_executable(listener src/listener.cpp)
target_link_libraries(listener \${catkin_LIBRARIES})
add_dependencies(listener beginner_tutorials_generate_message_cpp)

Continue with the tutorial, which asks you to complile the code

- cd ~/catkin_ws % move to the top directory of the package
- catkin_make % use the ROS catkin "Make" system
 - Catkin_make is really just a script that takes info from the package.xml and CMakeLists.txt files, and prepares the compilation process.