



Operating Modes: Real vs. Simulated

4/21/15 Brent Roman brent@mbari.org



Mission Simulation

- Simulate missions before deployment to catch
 - Syntax errors
 - Missing, wrong, or extra parameters
 - Configuration errors
 - Trying to pull a reagent that is not configured/defined
 - Scheduling errors
 - Not leaving enough time between mission phases
 - Scheduling recovery before last phase completes
- Simulate adaptive sampling triggers
 - With recorded or generated CTD data
 - Observe when sampling occurs
 - Adjust trigger conditions as needed
- Run simulations on ESP itself, or on a Linux desktop/laptop

ESP Operating Modes

- **ESPmode=real**
 - Normal operation in real-time with real hardware
 - Default mode
- **ESPmode=simreal**
 - Real-time with simulated hardware
- **ESPmode=simfast**
 - Simulated time (with simulated hardware)
 - ~1000 faster than ESPmode=real
 - *But may be only 50 times faster on the ESP itself*
- **ESPmode=quick**
 - Like simfast mode
 - Produces less output
 - Recommended for validating mission scripts

More Operating Modes

- **ESPmode=debug**
 - Like real mode, but displays all I2C messages on the console
- **ESPmode=quiet**
 - Like real, but displays only errors on the console
- **All modes are defined as ruby files in the mode subdirectory**
 - One may easily create their own custom modes.
 - Mode definition files are named:
 - `$ESPHOME/mode/mode_name.rb`

Simulation Procedure

- ESPmode must be set before starting the ESP software
- Change the mode for all subsequent runs with:
`ESPmode=newMode`
- Restore normal mode for all subsequent runs with:
`ESPmode=real`
- Change mode w/o affecting subsequent runs with:
`ESPmode=newMode esp mission`
 - Omit *mission* to simulate interactively
- Most typical simulation command:
`ESPmode=quick esp myNewMission`

Simulation Features and Limits

- Protocols are simulated in full detail
 - Every movement of the physical hardware is simulated
 - Every I2C message is simulated down to the byte level
 - Puck handling assumes that there are no stack height errors
 - Will not detect mechanical interference between axes
 - E.g. attempts to move the carousel with the Elevator up will **succeed** in sim
 - But, attempts to move the Elevator past its physical limits will **fail** in sim
 - One should test new protocols by simulating them first, before wasting reagents.
- Does simulate CTD
 - But not ISUS
- Tracks consumption of Time, but not:
 - Reagents
 - This is next on my TODO list
 - Power
- Simulation of whole missions is CPU intensive
 - Allow 90 minutes to simulate a full mission on the slow ESP processor
 - The same sim would take < 30 seconds on a fast server.
 - Figure on it taking 90 seconds for the typical laptop

Declaring Puck Stack Heights

- Puck stack height cannot be measured in simulation
 - Puck load must be prescribed in simulations
- Every new mission should define the number of pucks expected to be loaded in each tube!
 - Optional in “real” mode, but...
 - Isn't it better to “fail early” if puck load is wrong?
- Excerpt of mission with 6 pucks in tubes 2, 3 and 4:
pucks 2=>6, 3=>6, 4=>6 # see next slides
mission startTube: 2, until: “9AM 4/10/15” do
 <mission phases>
end
- Fails immediately if tube 2 did not start with exactly six pucks



Declaring Puck Stack Heights

- New commands to set and query the expected stack height:
 - `clear! tubeList=1..7`
 - Clears each specified tube's stack height
 - `fill! numPucks=22, tubeList=2..6`
 - Puts the specified number of pucks in each listed tube
 - `pucks tubeHash={}`
 - Puts the specified number of pucks in specified tubes
 - If tubeHash omitted, just displays the # of pucks in each tube

Detailed Stack Height Setting

- fill!
 - Fills all tubes except #1 (for typical fully loaded carousel mission)
- fill!; clear! 2, 4..7
 - Ends up with tube 3 containing 22 pucks, others empty
- fill! 9
 - Fills all tubes except #1 with 9 pucks
- fill! 9, 1, 3..5, 7
 - Fills tube 1, 3, 4, 5 and 7 with 9 pucks
- pucks 2=>22, 6=>18
 - Fills tube #2 with 22 pucks, tube #6 with only 18
- pucks
 - Changes nothing
 - Just returns the hash of pucks in tubes.

