

ESP Puck Tracking



4/12/24 Brent Roman brent@mbari.org

Why is Puck Tracking important?

- There are many types 2G ESP of pucks
- Pucks must be processed in prescribed sequence
- Dropping a puck ends a deployment
 - typically jambs Elbow or Forearm
- Can flood the can if dropped puck not detected
 - and clamp closed without a puck loaded in it
- We want to detect puck errors early to avoid this!



Why is puck tracking difficult?

- ESP cannot distinguish among puck types.
 - cannot read etched serial #, etc.
 - Even the flush puck appears identical
- No direct sensors for puck presence
 - ESP can't tell if Hand is holding a puck
 - Opening Hand risks dropping it
- ESP power may be remove at any time
 - even while handling pucks :-(



Sensing Puck Presence

- Motor current when closing Clamp
 - increases as spring compresses
 - only if there's a puck in the clamp!
 - anything puck in clamp sized would do
- IR beam under camera
 - blocked by top puck in stack
 - Elevator position at that instant allows
 ESP to calculate height of puck stack.
 - Assuming pucks are of standard height.



Counting Pucks

- Expected puck stack height in a tube
 - updated when puck is added or removed
- Every time puck stack lifts, its height
 - is compared with its expected height
 - Puck::Error raised if height != expected
 within 0.5 puck height units
- This same error will occur if an operator
 - manually changes a tube's stack height
 - unless the system is informed



Tracking Pucks in play

- Pucks currently in play are tracked from
 - tube stack or garage to Hand to destination Clamp
 - unclamping, back to Hand, to tube stack or garage
- Each puck move is recorded in \$ESPmode.slot file
- When ESPserver starts,
 - it replays the .slot file to determine location of all pucks
 - If any are out of place (i.e. in play)
 - ESP.ready! will avoid dropping pucks
 - reclamps previously clamped pucks
 - Hand refuses to open if it previously held a puck.



Resetting Puck Tracking

- -> Puck.count #counts all pucks in carousel
- -> Puck.count 2 #count only pucks in tube 2
- -> access 2 #present tube 2 and forget its height
- -> access #present currently selected tube, forget its height
- These do not move any actuator:
 - -> clear! #forget all puck heights
 - -> clear! 2..4 #forget puck height of tubes 2, 3 and 4
- If you see any of these sorts of messages on startup:
 Storage::Warning in simfast (clamp|Hand).holds *puck
 - the system thinks that pucks were in play when it last exited
 - If you have already manually corrected this situation,
 - -> Storage.recovery.clear #forgo automatic puck recovery
 - **BEFORE** executing -> ESP. ready!



Puck Loading for Simulations

- -> pucks #returns # pucks in each tube as a Hash
- -> pucks 2=>14, 3=>9 #set count of pucks for just tubes 2 & 3
- -> fill! #fill carousel tubes 2..7 with pucks, empty others

- TubeCapacity = 22 (or 33 if using "short" pucks)

-> fill! 14, 2, 3 #fill tubes 2 & 3 with 14 pucks, empty others

• To ensure each simulation run starts from tube 2 with a full carousel:

```
if ESP.simulation?
   fill!
   startTube 2
end
```

Put the above before the mission

