

Primeros pasos V2.5, 2012-04-01

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The LinuxCNC Team



This handbook is a work in progress. If you are able to help with writing, editing, or graphic preparation please contact any member of the writing team or join and send an email to emc-users@lists.sourceforge.net.

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AVISO

Debido a un reciente aumento de interés en otras traducciones, el equipo de EMC2 ha comenzado recientemente a este esfuerzo para entregar un Traducción al español de la documentación de EMC2.

Si a usted le gustaría ser un editor voluntario de la Traducción al español de EMC2, por favor póngase en contacto con nosotros.

NOTICE

Because of a recent increase in interest in other translations, the EMC2 team has recently begun this effort to deliver a Spanish Translation of the EMC2 documentation.

If you would like to be a volunteer editor for the Spanish translation of EMC2, please contact us.

Chapter 1

Requerimientos del sistema

1.1 Requerimientos Mínimos

Los requerimientos mínimos de hardware para ejecutar EMC2 y Ubuntu pueden variar dependiendo del uso que se le dará al sistema. Sistemas basados en motores a pasos requieren procesadores mas rápidos para generar trenes de pulsos en comparación con los servomecanismos retro alimentados. Usando el Live-CD usted puede probar el software antes de modificar la computadora. Mantenga en Mente que los resultados del estudio de latencia son mas importantes que la velocidad del procesador para la generación de pasos por software. Mas información sobre el estudio de latencia se encuentra en la sección ([Latency Test](#)).

Información adicional se puede encontrar en el sitio de EMC wiki:

Wiki.LinuxCNC.org, Hardware_Requirements

EMC2 y Ubuntu deberían de ejecutarse razonablemente bien en una computadora con las siguientes especificaciones mínimas de hardware. Estas especificaciones no son las mínimas absolutas pero proporcionan un desempeño razonable para la mayoría de los sistemas basados en motores a pasos.

*700 Mhz x86 procesador (se recomienda un procesador de 1.2GHz x86) *384 MB de RAM (se recomienda entre 512MB hasta 1GB) *8 GB de espacio en disco duro *Tarjeta gráfica capaz de por lo menos 1024x768 de resolución, que no este ejecutando los controladores propietarios Nvidia o ATI fglrx, y de preferencia que no se trate de una tarjeta de vídeo integrada que comparta memoria con el CPU. *Una conexión de red o Internet (No es estrictamente necesaria, pero resulta muy útil para realizar actualizaciones y contactar a la comunidad de usuarios del EMC)

Los requerimientos mínimos del sistema cambian conforme Ubuntu evoluciona, por lo tanto revise el sitio web help.ubuntu.com [Ubuntu] para mas detalles sobre el LiveCD que esta usando. Hardware antiguo podría beneficiarse si se selecciona una version mas antigua del LiveCD cuando se encuentre disponible.

1.2 Hardware Problemático

1.2.1 Computadores Portátiles

Los computadores portátiles en general no son buenos para la generación por software de pasos en tiempo real. De nuevo el Estudio de Latencia ejecutado por un periodo de tiempo prolongado proveerá la información necesaria para determinar si resulta apropiado su uso.

1.2.2 Tarjetas de Vídeo

Si su instalación comienza con una resolución de 800 x 600 en la mayoría de los casos eso significa que Ubuntu no reconoció apropiadamente su monitor o tarjeta de vídeo. Las tarjetas de vídeo integradas, la mayoría de los casos, producen malos resultados en el desempeño en tiempo real.

Chapter 2

Sobre LinuxCNC

2.1 El Software

*LinuxCNC (El “Enhanced Machine Control”) es un software para computador que permite el control de maquinas herramienta tales como fresadoras, tornos, robots tipo puma o scara y cualquier otro tipo de maquina de hasta 9 ejes. *LinuxCNC es software libre con un código fuente abierto. Las versiones actuales de EMC están enteramente licenciadas bajo las licencia GPL y LGPL (General Public License y Lesser GNU General Public License) *LinuxCNC proporciona: **una interfase gráfica (se puede elegir entre varias interfaces diferentes)** un interprete para código G (el lenguaje de programación de maquina RS-274) **un planeador de movimientos en tiempo real con análisis de instrucción siguiente** operación de electrónica de maquina de bajo nivel como sensores y controladores para motores **una capa de aislamiento sencilla de usar que permite crear rápidamente configuraciones únicas para cada maquina** un PLC basado en software programable con lógica de escalera **una instalación sencilla con un Live-CD * No provee capacidades de dibujo (CAD - Dibujo asistido por computadora) o generación de código G a partir de dibujos (CAM – Manufactura asistida por computadora). * Puede mover 9 ejes simultáneos y soportar una variedad de interfaces. * El control puede operar servomecanismos verdaderos (analógicos o por PWM) con retroalimentación del el lazo cerrado por el software LinuxCNC en la computadora, o puede operar en lazo abierto con motores a pasos o “paso-servos” *Algunas características del controlador de movimientos: compensación de radio y largo, desviación de la trayectoria limitada a una tolerancia especificada, roscado en torno, movimientos de ejes sincronizados, velocidad de alimentación adaptiva, velocidad de alimentación controlada por el operador, control de velocidad constante. *Soporte para sistemas no cartesianos a través de un modulo de cinemática. Algunas de las arquitecturas disponibles son hexapodos (plataformas Stewart y conceptos similares) y sistemas con juntas rotatorias para proporcionar movimiento como en los robots PUMA o SCARA. *LinuxCNC se ejecuta en Linux usando exenciones de tiempo real.

2.2 El Sistema Operativo

Ubuntu fue seleccionado porque encaja perfectamente en la visión de fuente abierta del LinuxCNC:

- Ubuntu sera siempre libre de cargo, y no se tiene que pagar extra por la “versión empresarial”, nosotros hacemos disponible nuestro mejor trabajo para cualquiera en los mismos términos de gratuidad.
- LinuxCNC esta acoplado con las versiones con soporte extendido (LTS) de Ubuntu, lo que provee soporte y arreglos de seguridad por parte del equipo de Ubuntu por 3 – 5 años.
- Ubuntu utiliza lo mejor en traducciones y fácil acceso que la comunidad de software libre tiene para ofrecer, para hacer Ubuntu practico de usar para la mayor cantidad de gente posible.
- La comunidad de Ubuntu esta completamente alineada a los principios de desarrollo del software libre; Nosotros fomentamos el uso por parte de la gente de software de fuente abierta, su mejoramiento y su distribución.

2.3 Obtener Ayuda

2.3.1 IRC

IRC (Internet Relay Chat) es un protocolo de comunicaciones en tiempo real basado en texto. Permite una conexión en vivo con otros usuarios del LinuxCNC. El canal del LinuxCNC en IRC es #linuxcnc en freenode.

La manera mas simple de utilizar IRC es utilizar el cliente integrado en la siguiente pagina de internet, [pagina](#).

Reglas de comportamiento en IRC

- Pregunte cuestiones especificas... Evite realizar preguntas como: “¿Puede alguien ayudarme?”.
- Si usted es realmente nuevo en la materia, piense un poco en lo que va a preguntar antes de comenzar a escribir. Asegúrese de proporcionar suficiente información así alguien podría ayudarle a resolver su pregunta.
- Sea paciente mientras espera por una respuesta, en algunas ocasiones toma tiempo formular la respuesta o todos los otros usuarios pueden estar ocupados trabajando en algo mas.
- Inicie sesión en IRC con un único nombre así la gente sabrá quien es usted. Si utiliza el cliente Java, utilice el mismo apodo cada vez que entre. Esto ayuda a la gente a recordar quien es usted y esto reduce el gasto de tiempo de las dos partes.
- La mayoría de los usuarios del canal linuxcnc en IRC son anglo parlantes, tendrá mas probabilidad de éxito si formula sus preguntas en el idioma ingles.

Compartiendo Archivos

La forma mas común de compartir archivos en IRC es subir el archivo a uno de los siguientes servidores y pegar el enlace (puede utilizar servidores similares).

- Para texto - <http://pastebin.com/> , <http://pastie.org/> , <https://gist.github.com/>
- Para Imagenes - <http://imagebin.org/> , <http://imgur.com/> , <http://bayimg.com/>
- Para archivos - <http://filedropper.com/> , <http://filefactory.com/> , <http://1fichier.com/>

2.3.2 Lista de Correo

Una Lista de Correo es una forma para preguntar a todos los miembros de la lista y obtener una respuesta a su conveniencia. Usted obtiene una mejor exposición de su pregunta utilizando la Lista de Correo que utilizando IRC, pero las respuestas pueden tardar mas tiempo. En pocas palabras usted manda un correo electrónico con su pregunta a la lista de correo y recibe respuestas individuales o un compilado diario de respuestas individuales, dependiendo de como configure su cuenta.

Información sobre la lista de correo de LinuxCNC se encuentra en: <https://lists.sourceforge.net/lists/listinfo/emc-users> [emc-users lista de correo]

2.3.3 LinuxCNC Wiki

Un sitio Wiki es un sitio de internet mantenido por los usuarios en donde todos pueden modificar o agregar información.

El sitio wiki mantenido por los usuarios del LinuxCNC contiene mucha información y consejos y se encuentra en:

wiki.linuxcnc.org

2.4 Obteniendo LinuxCNC

2.4.1 Descarga Normal

Descargue el Live-CD de:

[La pagina principal del LinuxCNC www.linuxcnc.org](http://www.linuxcnc.org)

y siga el vinculo para descarga.

2.4.2 Descarga Multi-sesion

Si el archivo es demasiado grande para ser descargado en una sesión debido a una conexión a internet lenta o defectuosa, utilice `wget` (o bittorrent) para permitir restaurar la descarga después de una interrupción.

Linux Wget

Abra una ventana de terminal. En Ubuntu vaya a Applications/Accessories/Terminal. Utilice `cd` para cambiar al directorio donde desea guardar el ISO. Si lo necesita utilice `mkdir` para crear un nuevo directorio.

Note que los nombres de los archivos pueden cambiar, usted debería de ir a <http://www.linuxcnc.org/> y seguir el vínculo de descarga para obtener el nombre actual del archivo. En la mayoría de los buscadores usted puede hacer clic derecho en el vínculo y seleccionar la opción de copiar la locación del vínculo, posteriormente pegue esa locación en la ventana de la terminal utilizando un clic del botón derecho y seleccionando la opción pegar.

Ubuntu 10.04 Lucid Lynx y LinuxCNC (versión actual)

Para obtener la versión Ubuntu 10.04 Lucid Lynx, copie una de las siguientes direcciones en la ventana de terminal y presione la tecla enter:

Para el espejo en USA: `wget http://www.linuxcnc.org/lucid/ubuntu-10.04-linuxcnc1-i386.iso`

Para el espejo en Europa: `wget http://dsplabs.upt.ro/~juve/emc/get.php?file=ubuntu-10.04-linuxcnc1-i386.iso`

La md5sum del archivo anterior es: `5283b33b7e23e79da1ee561ad476b05f`

+ Para continuar una descarga parcial que fue interrumpida agregue la opción `-c` al comando `wget`:

+ `wget -c http://www.linuxcnc.org/lucid/ubuntu-10.04-linuxcnc1-i386.iso`

+ Para detener una descarga en progreso utilice `Ctrl-C` o cierre la pantalla de la terminal.

+ .Ubuntu 8.04 Hardy Heron y LinuxCNC (antiguo)

Si usted requiere una versión antigua de Ubuntu, usted puede descargar Ubuntu 8.04. La imagen CD siguiente tiene el antiguo emc 2.3.x en ella, pero puede ser actualizada a la versión 2.4.x siguiendo las instrucciones en el wiki de LinuxCNC.org que se encuentran aquí: <http://wiki.linuxcnc.org/cgi-bin/emcinfo.pl?UpdatingTo2.4>

Para el espejo en USA: `wget http://www.linuxcnc.org/hardy/ubuntu-8.04-desktop-emc2-aj13-i386.iso`

Para el espejo en Europa: `wget http://dsplabs.upt.ro/~juve/emc/get.php?file=ubuntu-8.04-desktop-emc2-aj13-i386.iso`

La md5sum del archivo anterior es: `1bab052ec879f941628927c988863f14`

+ Cuando la descarga sea completada usted encontrara el archivo ISO en el directorio que selecciono. A continuación quemaremos el CD.

Wget Windows

El programa `wget` se encuentra también disponible para Windows descargado de:

<http://gnuwin32.sourceforge.net/packages/wget.htm>

Siga las instrucciones de la pagina de internet para descargar e instalar la versión de Windows del programa `wget`.

Para correr `wget` abra una ventana de linea de comandos.

En la mayoría de las instalaciones de Windows esto se hace en Programs/Accessories/Command Prompt

Primero usted tiene que cambiarse al directorio donde `wget` esta instalado.

Típicamente es en `C:\Program Files\GnuWin32\bin` por lo tanto en la ventana de la linea de comandos escriba:

--- `cd C:\Program Files\GnuWin32\bin` ---

y el prompt debería de cambiar a: `C:\Program Files\GnuWin32\bin>`

Escriba el comando `wget` en la ventana de la linea de comandos como se describió en las secciones anteriores dependiendo de la versión de LinuxCNC que requiera y presione enter.

2.4.3 Quemando el CD de LinuxCNC

LinuxCNC es distribuido como una imagen de CD con un formato llamado ISO. Para instalar LinuxCNC, usted necesitara primero quemar el archivo ISO en un CD. Usted necesita un quemador CD/DVD que funcione y un CD en blanco de 80 minutos (700Mb) para hacer esto. Si la escritura del CD falla trate de nuevo con una velocidad de escritura mas baja.

Verificando la integridad del CD con md5sum en Linux

Antes de quemar el CD, es altamente recomendable que verifique el md5sum (hash) del archivo .iso.

Abra una ventana de terminal. En Ubuntu valla a Applications/Accessories/Terminal.

Cambie el directorio a donde el archivo ISO fue descargado.

```
--- cd download_directory ---
```

Ejecute el comando de verificación de md5sum con el nombre del archivo guardado.

```
--- md5sum -b ubuntu-10.04-linuxcnc1-i386.iso ---
```

El comando md5sum deberá de imprimir una linea sencilla después de calcular el hash.

En computadoras lentas esto puede tardar un minuto o dos.

```
+ --- 5283b33b7e23e79da1ee561ad476b05f *ubuntu-10.04-linuxcnc1-i386.iso ---
```

+ Ahora compare este valor con el que realmente debería de ser.

+ Si descarga el md5sum asi como el iso, usted puede preguntar al programa md5sum el hacer la revisión por usted. En el mismo directorio:

```
+ --- md5sum -c ubuntu-10.04-linuxcnc1-i386.iso.md5 ---
```

+ Si todo va bien despues de una pausa la terminal deveria de imprimir:

```
+ --- ubuntu-10.04-linuxcnc1-i386.iso: OK ---
```

+

Quemando el archivo ISO en Linux

1. Inserte un CD en blanco en su quemador. Una ventana de *CD/DVD creador* o *Seleccione tipo de disco* aparecera seleccione no hacer nada y cierre la ventana.
2. Busque la imagen Iso en el buscador de archivos.
3. Haga click derecho sobre la imagen ISO y seleccione la opcion escribir a disco.
4. Seleccione la velocidad de escritura. Si se esta quemando un disco Live CD de Ubuntu seleccione la velocidad mas baja posible.
5. Inicie el proceso de quemado.
6. Si una ventana con el titulo *seleccione el nombre para la imagen de disco* aparece, solo seleccione la opcion OK.

Verificar md5sum con Windows

Antes de quemar el CD, es altamente recomendable que verifique el md5sum (hash) del archivo .iso que se descargo.

Windows no incluye un programa de verificacion de mdsum. Se tendra que descargar e instalar uno para provar la md5sum. mas informacion puede ser encontrada en:

<https://help.ubuntu.com/community/HowToMD5SUM>

Quemando el archivo ISO en Windows

1. Descargue e instale Infra Recorder, el cual es un programa para quemar imagenes de disco gratuito y libre: <http://infrarecorder.com>
2. Inserte un CD en blanco en la unidad de disco y seleccione la opcion de hacer nada o cancelar si alguna pantalla emergente aparece.
3. Abra Infra Recorder, seleccione la opcion *Acciones* del menu, posteriormente seleccione *Quemar Imagen*.

2.4.4 Probando LinuxCNC

Con el Live CD en la unidad CD/DVD apague la computadora y enciéndala de nuevo. Esto hará que la computadora arranque desde el Live CD. Una vez que la computadora haya arrancado usted puede probar LinuxCNC sin instalarlo. Usted no puede crear configuraciones personalizadas o modificar la mayoría de los parámetros del sistema tales como la resolución de pantalla a menos que instale LinuxCNC.

Para probar LinuxCNC desde el menú de Applications/CNC seleccione LinuxCNC. Entonces seleccione una configuración sim (simulador) para hacer pruebas.

Para revisar si su computadora es candidata apta para la generación de pasos por software corra una prueba de latencia como se describe en la sección ([Latency Test](#))

2.4.5 Instalar LinuxCNC

Si le gustan los resultados que obtuvo probando LinuxCNC, solo haga clic en el icono de instalación del escritorio, conteste unas cuantas preguntas (su nombre, zona horaria, contraseña) y la instalación se completará en unos pocos minutos. Asegúrese de conservar el nombre y la contraseña que introdujo. Una vez que el proceso de instalación concluya y usted se encuentre en línea el administrador de actualizaciones le permitirá actualizar a la última versión estable de LinuxCNC.

2.4.6 Actualizaciones a LinuxCNC

Con la instalación normal el agente de actualizaciones le notificará de las actualizaciones disponibles para LinuxCNC cuando se conecte a internet, y usted podrá actualizar sin necesidad de conocer más sobre LINUX.

Si usted desea actualizar a 10.04 de 8.04 se recomienda una instalación limpia de EMC. Es correcto actualizar todo cuando se le pregunte por hacerlo excepto el sistema operativo.

Advertencia: No actualice Ubuntu a una versión que no sea LTS (Por ejemplo de 8.04 a 8.10) lo anterior arruinará su instalación de EMC y no podrá utilizarlo.

2.4.7 Problemas con la instalación

En casos raros deberá de resetear el BIOS a su configuración de fábrica si durante el proceso de instalación desde el Live CD el disco duro no es detectado correctamente.

Chapter 3

Actualizando LinuxCNC

3.1 Actualizando de 2.4.x a 2.5.x

As of version 2.5.0, the name of the project has changed from EMC2 to LinuxCNC. All programs with "emc" in the name have been changed to "linuxcnc" instead. All documentation has been updated.

Additionally, the name of the debian package containing the software has changed. Unfortunately this breaks automatic upgrades. To upgrade from emc2 2.4.X to linuxcnc 2.5.X, do the following:

3.1.1 On Ubuntu Lucid 10.04

First you need to tell your computer where to find the new LinuxCNC software:

- Click on the System menu in the top panel and select Administration->Software Sources.
- Select the Other Software tab.
- Select the entry that says

```
http://linuxcnc.org/lucid lucid base emc2.4
```

or

```
http://linuxcnc.org/lucid lucid base emc2.4-sim
```

and click the Edit button.

- In the Components field, change emc2.4 to linuxcnc2.5, or change emc2.4-sim to linuxcnc2.5-sim.
- Click the OK button.
- Back in the Software Sources window, Other Software tab, click the Close button.
- It will pop up a window informing you that the information about available software is out-of-date. Click the Reload button.

Now your computer knows about the new software, next we need to tell it to install it:

- Click on the System menu in the top panel and select Administration->Synaptic Package Manager
- In the Quick Search bar at the top, type `linuxcnc`.
- Click the check box to mark the new linuxcnc package for installation.
- Click the Apply button, and let your computer install the new package. The old emc 2.4 package will be automatically removed to make room for the new LinuxCNC 2.5 package.

3.1.2 On Ubuntu Hardy 8.04

First you need to tell your computer where to find the new LinuxCNC software:

- Click on the System menu in the top panel and select Administration->Synaptic Package Manager
- Go to Settings->Repositories.
- Select the "Third-Party Software" tab.
- Select the entry that says

```
http://linuxcnc.org/hardy hard emc2.4
```

or

```
http://linuxcnc.org/hardy hardy emc2.4-sim
```

and click the Edit button.

- In the Components field, change `emc2.4` to `linuxcnc2.5` or `emc2.4-sim` to `linuxcnc2.5-sim`.
- Click the OK button.
- Back in the Software Sources window, click the Close button.
- Back in the Synaptic Package Manager window, click the Reload button.

Now your computer knows about the new software, next we need to tell it to install it:

- In the Synaptic Package Manager, click the Search button.
- In the Find dialog window that pops up, type `linuxcnc` and click the Search button.
- Click the check-box to mark the `linuxcnc` package for installation.
- Click the Apply button, and let your computer install the new package. The old `emc 2.4` package will be automatically removed to make room for the new LinuxCNC 2.5 package.

3.2 Config changes

The user configs moved from `$HOME/emc2` to `$HOME/linuxcnc`, so you will need to rename your directory, or move your files to the new place.

The `hostmot2` watchdog in LinuxCNC 2.5 does not start running until the HAL threads start running. This means it now tolerates a timeout on the order of the servo thread period, instead of requiring a timeout that's on the order of the time between loading the driver and starting the HAL threads. This typically means a few milliseconds (a few times the servo thread period) instead of many hundreds of milliseconds. The default has been lowered from 1 second to 5 milliseconds. You generally don't need to set the `hm2` watchdog timeout any more, unless you've changed your servo thread period.

The old driver for the Mesa 5i20, `hal_m5i20`, has been removed after being deprecated in favor of `hostmot2` since early 2009 (version 2.3.) If you are still using this driver, you will need to build a new configuration using the `hostmot2` driver. `Pncconf` may help you do this, and we have some sample configs (`hm2-servo` and `hm2-stepper`) that act as examples.

3.3 Actualizando de 2.3.x a 2.4.x

Las siguientes instrucciones solo aplican a Ubuntu 8.04 "Hardy Heron". LinuxCNC 2.4 no se encuentra disponible en versiones mas antiguas de Ubuntu.

Debido a la existencia de incompatibilidades entre 2.3.5 y 2.4.x, su instalación actual no se actualizara automáticamente por el agente de actualización a 2.4.x. Si usted desea correr la versión 2.4.x, Cambie al repositorio LinuxCNC-2.4 siguiendo estas instrucciones:

Ejecute System/Administration/Synaptic Package Manager

Vaya a Settings/Repositories

En la lista de "Third-Party software" debe haber al menos dos lineas para linuxcnc.org

Para cada una de ellas:

- Seleccione la linea y haga clic en Editar
- En la linea de componentes, cambie emc2.3 a emc2.4
- Haga clic en OK
- Cierre la ventana "Software Preferences"
- Haga clic en "Reload"
- Haga clic en "Mark All Upgrades"

Usuarios de tarjetas Mesa y hostmot2:

Si usa una tarjeta Mesa, busque el hostmot2-firmware apropiado para su tarjeta y márkelo para instalación. Consejo: haga una búsqueda por "hostmot2-firmware" en el manejador de paquetes Synaptic.

- Haga clic en *Apply*

3.4 Cambios entre 2.3.x y 2.4.x

Una vez completada la actualización, actualice cualquier archivo de configuración de maquinas que tenga previamente configuradas siguiendo estas instrucciones:

3.4.1 emc.nml cambios (2.3.x a 2.4.x)

Para configuraciones que no poseen un archivo emc.nml personalizado, remueva o comente la linea `NML_FILE = emc.nml` en el archivo `.ini`. Esto causara que se use la versión mas actual de emc.nml.

Para configuraciones que tienen un archivo emc.nml personalizado, un cambio similar es requerido.

El no realizar el cambio puede ocasionar la aparición de un error tal como:

```
libnml/buffer/physmem.cc 143: PHYSMEM_HANDLE:  
Can't write 10748 bytes at offset 60 from buffer of size 10208.
```

3.4.2 Cambios en la tabla de Herramientas (2.3.x a 2.4.x)

El formato de la tabla de herramientas a cambiado y es incompatible. La documentación muestra el nuevo formato. La antigua tabla de herramientas sera automáticamente actualizada al nuevo formato.

3.4.3 Imágenes del firmware hostmot2 (2.3.x a 2.4.x)

Las Imágenes del firmware hostmot2 son ahora paquetes separados. Usted puede:

- Continuar usando la versión ya instalada *emc2-firmware-mesa-** paquete 2.3.x
 - Instalar los paquetes nuevos desde el manejador de paquetes Synaptic. Los nuevos paquetes se llaman *hostmot2-firmware-**
 - Descargar las imágenes del firmware como archivos tar desde <http://emergent.unpy.net/01267622561> e instalarlos manualmente.
-

Chapter 4

Configuración de motores a pasos

Esta sección asume que una instalación estándar a partir de un LiveCd ha sido realizada. Posterior a la instalación es recomendable conectar la computadora al internet y esperar por la aparición del manejador de actualizaciones y obtener las ultimas actualizaciones para el EMC y Ubuntu antes de continuar. Para instalaciones mas complejas vea el manual del integrador.

4.1 Prueba de Latencia

La prueba de latencia determina cuanto tiempo le toma al procesador de su computadora responder a una solicitud de procesamiento. Algunos Hardware pueden interrumpir el procesamiento lo que puede traducirse a la perdida de algunos pasos cuando se opera una maquina CNC. Esto es la primer cosa que se requiere hacer posterior a la instalación. Siga las instrucciones de la sección [here](#) Para correr La prueba de latencia.

4.2 Sherline

Si usted posee una maquina marca Sherline varias configuraciones predefinidas están disponibles. Estas configuraciones se encuentran en el menú principal CNC/EMC donde puede seleccionar la configuración que sea compatible con el tipo de maquina que posea y hacer clic, para copiarla y salvarla.

4.3 Xylotex

Si usted tiene una maquina marca Xylotex, usted puede escapar las siguientes secciones para pasar directamente a la sección de Asistente de Configuración de Motores a Pasos ubicada en [Wizard](#). EMC provee una configuración rápida para maquinas Xylotex.

4.4 Información sobre la Maquina

Obtenga la información sobre cada eje de su maquina.

Los tiempos de los controladores están en nanosegundos. Si usted no esta seguro con respecto a los tiempos de su controlador de motor a pasos algunos tiempos específicos para controladores populares están incluidos en el asistente de configuración de motores a pasos. Nota: Algunos controladores marca Gecko de nueva generación tienen tiempos que difieren con los originales. Una lista con tiempos de diversos controladores es mantenida en el sitio wiki del LinuxCNC que es administrado por los mismos usuarios, en la siguiente dirección: [list](#)

Eje	Tipo de controlador	Tiempo de paso en ns	Tiempo entre pasos en ns	Dir. Mantener en ns	Dir. Cambiar en ns
X					
Y					
Z					

4.5 Información de los pines de salida

Obtenga la información sobre las conexiones de su maquina hacia el puerto Paralelo de su computadora.

Pin de Salida	Función Típica	Si es Diferente	Pin de Entrada	Función típica	Si es Diferente
1	Salida de Paro E-stop		10	X Limite/Casa	
2	Paso eje X		11	Y Limite/Casa	
3	Dirección Eje X		12	Z Limite/Casa	
4	Paso eje Y		13	A Limite/Casa	
5	Dirección Eje Y		15	Zonda de Prueba	
6	Paso eje Z				
7	Dirección Eje Z				
8	Paso eje A				
9	Dirección Eje A				
14	Husillo CW				
16	Husillo PWM				
17	Amplificador Habilitado				

Nota: Cualquier pin no usado debe ser definido como **Unused** en el menú desplegable de configuracion. Esto puede ser cambiado posteriormente ejecutando de nuevo el programa Stepconf

4.6 Información Mecánica

Obtenga la información de sus motores a pasos y en caso de existir de las reducciones mecánicas que este usando. El resultado sera el desplazamiento lineal en cada eje por paso en el motor, esta información sera utilizada en el parámetro SCALE del archivo de configuración .ini.

Eje	Pasos/Rev.	Micro Pasos	Dientes del motor	Dientes en el tornillo guía	Paso del tornillo guía
X					
Y					
Z					

- *Pasos por revolución* - indica cuantos pasos del motor le toma a la flecha del motor completar una revolución completa, un valor típico es 200 Pasos/Rev.
- *Micro Pasos* - este parámetro indica cuantos pasos generador por el software necesita el controlador del motor para producir un paso completo en el motor Algunos controladores dividen los pasos del motor para aumentar la resolución si no se utilizaran Micro Pasos este parámetro debe ser puesto en 1, en caso de utilizar micro pasos el valor dependera del Hardware especifico usado.
- *Dientes del Motor* y **Dientes del tornillo guía* - estos parámetros se utilizan si se esta utilizando algún tipo de reducción mecánica (engranes, cadenas, bandas de tiempo, etc.) entre el motor y el tornillo guía. Si no se utiliza reducción el parámetro

debe ser puesto al valor 1.

- *Paso del tornillo guía* - es cuanto movimiento lineal ocurre (en las unidades de usuario) cuando el tornillo guía da una vuelta completa. Si se utilizan pulgadas entonces es pulgadas por revolución. Si se utilizan milímetros entonces es milímetros por revolución

El resultado de la combinación de parámetros que se busca es cuantos pasos producidos por el software CNC le tomara al eje moverse linealmente una unidad de usuario (pulgadas o mm).

Example 4.1 Unidades Pulgadas

Motor a Pasos	= 200 Pasos por revolución
Controlador de Motor	= 10 micro pasos por paso
Dientes del motor	= 20
Dientes del tornillo guía	= 40
Paso del tornillo guía	= 0.2000 pulgadas por revolución

A partir de la información anterior, el tornillo guía se mueve 0.200 pulgadas por vuelta. - El motor da 2 vueltas por una vuelta del tornillo guía. - El controlador necesita 10 micro pasos de entrada para hacer al motor dar un paso. - El controlador necesita 2000 pasos para hacer que el motor de una revolución. Por lo tanto la escala necesitada es:

$$\frac{200 \text{ full steps}}{1 \text{ rev}} \times \frac{8 \text{ microsteps}}{1 \text{ step}} \times \frac{2 \text{ revs}}{1 \text{ leadscrew rev}} \times \frac{1 \text{ leadscrew rev}}{0.200 \text{ inch}} = \frac{20,000 \text{ steps}}{1 \text{ inch}}$$

Example 4.2 Unidades mm

Motor a Pasos	= 200 Pasos por revolución
Controlador de Motor	= 8 micro pasos por paso
Dientes del motor	= 30
Dientes del tornillo guía	= 90
Paso del tornillo guía	= 5.00 mm por revolución

A partir de la información anterior, el tornillo guía se mueve 5.00 mm por vuelta. - El motor da 3 vueltas por una vuelta del tornillo guía. - El controlador necesita 8 micro pasos de entrada para hacer al motor dar un paso. - El controlador necesita 1600 pasos para hacer que el motor de una revolución. Por lo tanto la escala necesitada es:

$$\frac{200 \text{ full steps}}{1 \text{ rev}} \times \frac{8 \text{ microsteps}}{1 \text{ step}} \times \frac{3 \text{ revs}}{1 \text{ leadscrew rev}} \times \frac{1 \text{ leadscrew rev}}{5.00 \text{ mm}} = \frac{960 \text{ steps}}{1 \text{ mm}}$$

Chapter 5

Asistente de configuracion Stepconf

LinuxCNC es capaz de controlar un vasto rango de diferentes tipos de maquinaria, utilizando diferentes interfaces de Hardware.

Stepconf es un programa que genera archivos de configuracion para LinuxCNC para un tipo especifico de maquina CNC: Aquellas que son controladas atravez de un *Puerto paralelo estandar*, y que son controladas utilizando las senales *Paso* y *Direccion*

Stepconf se instala automaticamente cuando instala LinuxCNC y se encuentra en el menu CNC.

Stepconf genera un archivo en el directorio `emc2/config` en el cual guarda las selecciones de cada configuracion que usted genere. Cuando se desea cambia algo, se necesita seleccionar el archivo que tenga el mismo numero que la configuracion que desea modificar. La extencion del archivo es `.stepconf`.

El asistente Stepconf necesita al menos una resolucion de pantalla de 800 x 600 para que los botones de la parte baja de la pantalla sean visibles.

Instrucciones paso a paso

5.1 Pagina de entrada

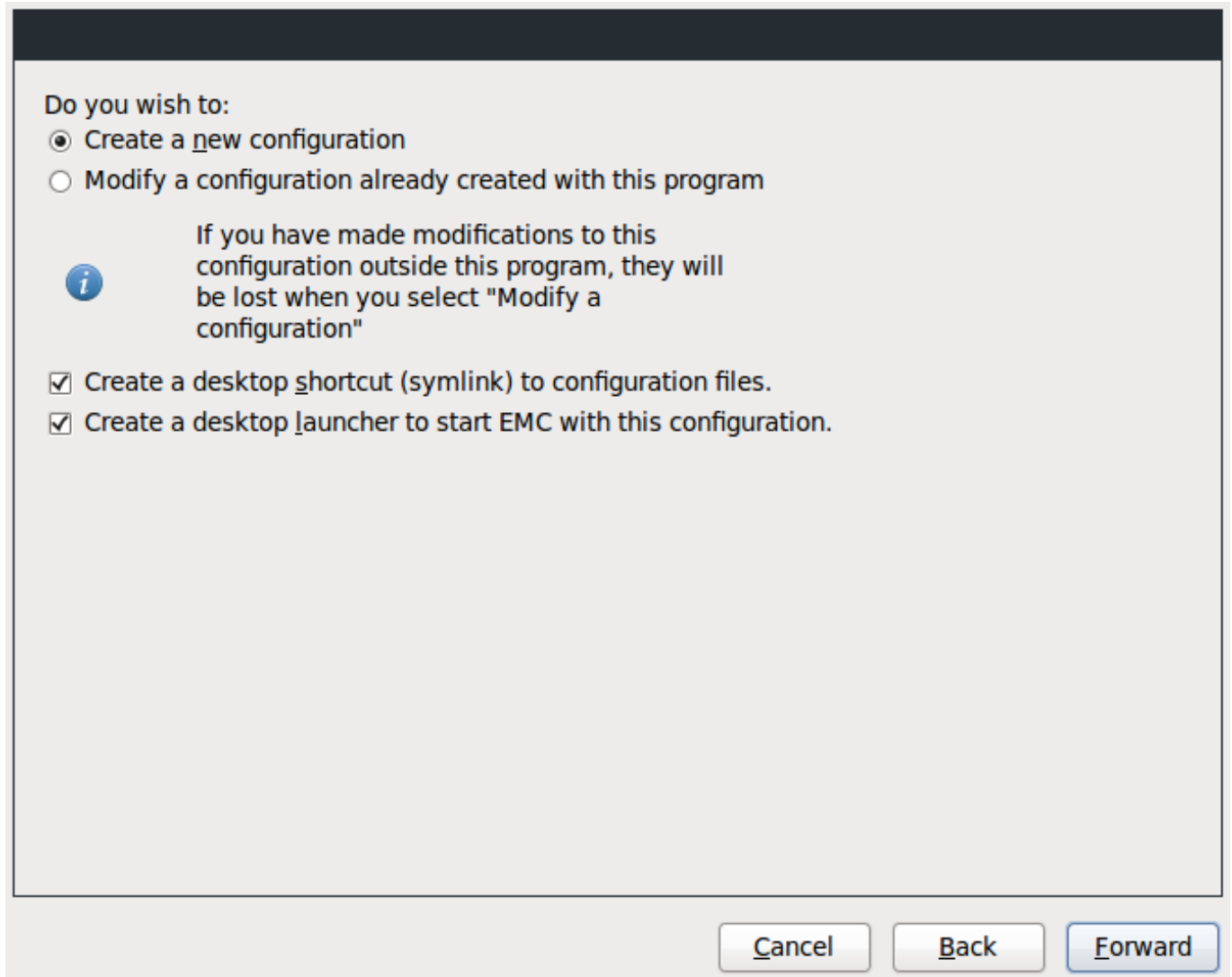


Figure 5.1: Pagina de entrada

Create New

Crea una configuracion nueva.

Modify

Modifica una configuracion existente. Despues de seleccionar esta opcion una pantalla de seleccion de archivo aparecera y usted devera el archivo con extencion .stepconf que dese modificar. Si usted relizo alguna modificacion previa a los archivos principales .hal o .ini estas modificaciones se perderan. Modificaciones a los archivos custom.hal y custom_postgui.hal no seran cambiadas por el

asistente Stepconf.Create Desktop Shortcut

This will place a link on your desktop to the files.

Create Desktop Shortcut

Se generara un acceso rapido en su a los archivos.

Create Desktop Launcher

Se generara un acceso rapido pra iniciar la aplicacion.

5.2 Informacion Basica

Basic machine information

Machine Name:

Configuration directory:

Axis configuration:

Machine units:

Driver characteristics: (Multiply by 1000 for times specified in μ s or microseconds)
Additional signal conditioning or isolation such as optocouplers and RC filters
can impose timing constraints of their own, in addition to those of the driver.

Driver type:

▼ Driver Timing Settings

Step Time: ns

Step Space: ns

Direction Hold: ns

Direction Setup: ns

▼ Parallel Port Settings

First Parport Base Address: Out

☐ Second Parport Address: In

☐ Third Parport Address: In

Base Period Maximum Jitter: ns Min Base Period: 23000 ns

☒ Onscreen prompt for tool change Max step rate: 43478 Hz

Figure 5.2: Informacion Basica

Machine Name

Seleccione un nombre para su maquina Utilise solo letras mayusculas, minusculas, digitos, - y _.

Axis Configuration

Seleccione XYZ (Fresadora), XYZA (Fresadora de 4 ejes) o XZ (Torno).

Machine Units

Seleccione entre pulgadas y milímetros. Todas las preguntas posteriores (Tales como el largo de los ejes, el paso de los tornillos, etc) deberan ser contestadas utilizando las unidades seleccionadas

Driver Type

Si usted tiene uno de los controladores de motor a pasos listados en el menu desplegable, seleccíonelo directamente. En cualquier otro caso, busque los 4 valores de tiempo necesarios utilice los manuales de su controlador y rellene los campos. Si sus manuales le dan los datos en microsegundos multiplíquelos por 1000. por ejemplo, si el manual marca 4.5us escriba 4500ns.

Una lista de controladores populares, así como sus tiempos puede ser consultada en la pagina wiki de LinuxCNC.org en la siguiente direccion [Stepper Drive Timing](#).

Acondicionamiento extra de senal o aislamiento electrico como el uso de optoacopladores y filtros RC en targetas de aislamiento pueden imponer diferentes valores de tiempo a los normales de su controlador. Puede ser el caso que se requiera agregar tiempo extra a los valores de tiempo para compensar los filtros o aislamientos. La seccion de seleccion de configuracion tiene las maquinas de marca Sherline ya configuradas para su uso en caso de que posea una de estas.

Step Time

Cuanto tiempo el pulso de paso esta "Encendido" en nanosegundos.

Step Space

Tiempo minimo entre dos pulsos de paso en nanosegundos.

Direction Hold

Cuanto tiempo el pin de direccion deve ser mantenido despues de un cambio de direccion en nanosegundos.

Direction Setup

Cuanto tiempo debe aver antes de un cambio de direccion despues del ultimo pulso de paso.

First Parport

Usualmente la direccion en hexadecimal del primer puerto paralelo es 0x378.

Second Parport

En caso de ser necesario especificar un puerto paralelo extra introduca la direccion y el tipo. Para informacion de como encontrar la direccion de puertos paralelos PCI vea la seccion Port Address en el manual de integrador. (Trate primero con 0x278 o 0x3BC)

Base Period Maximum Jitter

Introduca el resultado de la prueba de latencia. Para correr la prueba de latencia precione el boton "Test Base Period Jitter". Vea la seccion de la prueba de latencia para mas detalles.

Max Step Rate

Stepconf automaticamente calculara la taza maxima de pulsos de pasos basandose en las caracteristicas del controlador de motor a pasos y el resultado de la prueba de latencia.

Min Base Period

Stepconf automaticamente calculara el periodo base minimo basandose en las caracteristicas del controlador de motor a pasos y el resultado de la prueba de latencia.

Onscreen Prompt For Tool Change

Si esta casilla es seleccionada, LinuxCNC pausara la ejecucion de un programa y le preguntara por el cambio de herramienta cuando el comando **M6** sea encontrado en el codigo G. Deje esta casilla sin checar amenos que usted planie agregar soporte para una torreta automatica de cambio de herramientas en un archivo HAL personalizado.

5.3 Prueba de latencia

Mientras se ejecute la prueba, usted debera de *abusar* de la computadora. Mueva ventanas alrededor de la pantalla. Navegue en internet. Copie algunos archivos de gran tamaño en diferentes partes del disco duro. Reproduzca musica. Corra algun programa OpenGL como glxgears. La idea es poner a la computadora en apuros mientras se ejecuta la prueba para poder tener una idea de cuales seran los peores casos de demanda a la computadora y sus tiempo de respuesta. Ejecute la prueba almenos unos cuantos minutos. Entre mas tiempo la ejecute mas probable es que detecte casos especiales que solo suceden en intervalos poco frecuentes. Esta prueba es solo para la computadora, no se requiere que conecte los controladores de motores o la maquina herramienta.

No ejecute LinuxCNC mientras realiza la prueba de latencia.

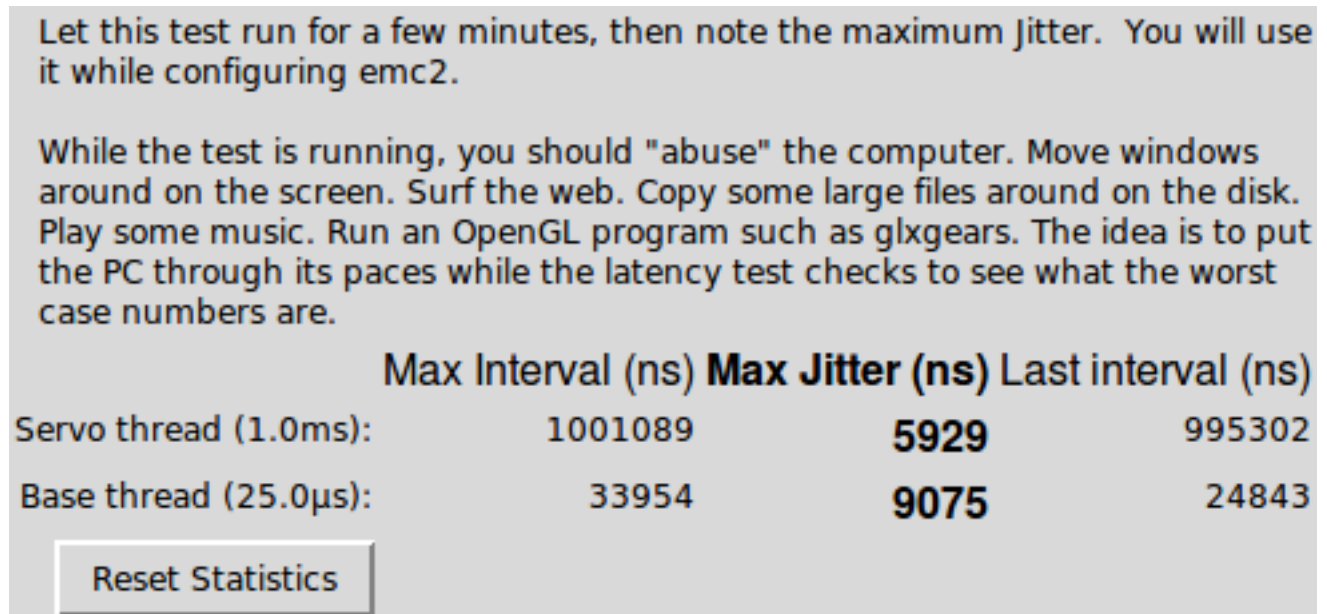


Figure 5.3: Prueba de Latencia

Latencia es cuanto le tomara a la PC detenerse en lo que esta haciendo y responder a una solicitud externa. En este caso, la solicitud es el *latido periodico* que sirve como referencia de tiempo para la generacion de los pulsos de paso. Entre menor sea la latencia, mas rapido se generaran los latidos, y mas rapidos y suaves seran los pulsos de paso.

La latencia es mucho mas importante que la velocidad del CPU. La velocidad del CPU no es el unico factor determinante en la latencia. Tahgetas madre, targetas de video, puertos USB, Problemas con SMI, y otra cantidad de cosas pueden afectar la latencia.

Troubleshooting SMI Issues (LinuxCNC.org Wiki)

Encuentre soluciones a algunos problemas de SMI comunes en Ubuntu

<http://wiki.linuxcnc.org/cgi-bin/emcinfo.pl?FixingSMIIssues>

Los numeros importantes son el "max jitter". en el ejemplo de abajo 9075 nanosegundos, o 9.075 microsegundos, es el maximo retraso. Guarde este numero, y escrivalo en la caja Base Period Maximum Jitter.

Si el maximo retraso es menor o se encuentra entre 15-20 microsegundos (15000-20000 nanosegundos), la computadora deberia de dar muy buenos resultados con la generacion de pulsos de pasos. Si la latencia maxima esta entre 30-50 microsegundos, se pueden seguir obteniendo buenos resultados, pero la tasa maxima de generacion de pulsos puede ser un poco desepcionante, especialmente si se usan micropasos o un tornillo con un paso muy fino. si los numeros son 100us o mas (100 000 nanosegundos), la PC no es una buena candidata para la generacion de pulsos de paso por software. Numeros arriba de 1 milisegundo (1 000 000 nanosegundos) significan que la PC no es una buena candidata para ejecutar LinuxCNC, sin importar si se usa generacion de pulsos de paso por software o no.

5.4 Ajustes del puerto Paralelo

Parallel Port Setup

Outputs (PC to Mill):		Invert	Inputs (Mill to PC):		Invert
Pin 1:	ESTOP Out	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 10:	Unused	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 2:	X Step	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 11:	Unused	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 3:	X Direction	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 12:	Unused	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 4:	Y Step	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 13:	Unused	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 5:	Y Direction	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 15:	Unused	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 6:	Z Step	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Pin 7:	Z Direction	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Pin 8:	A Step	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Pin 9:	A Direction	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Pin 14:	Spindle CW	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Pin 16:	Spindle PWM	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Pin 17:	Amplifier Enable	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Output pinout presets:

Sherline Outputs

Xylotex Outputs

Cancel Back Forward

Figure 5.4: Pagina de ajuste del Puerto Paralelo

Para cada pin se debera seleccionar la señal de control que concuerde con la configuracion del puerto.

Active la casilla "invert" si la señal de control requiere ser invertida (0V para activo/Verdadero, 5V para inactivo/Falso)

Esquemas de pines predefinidos

Se configuraran automaticamente los pines del 2 al 9 deacuerdo al estandar de las maquinas Sherline (Direccion en los pines 2, 4, 6, 8) o Xylotex (Direccion en los pines 3, 5, 7, 9).

Entradas y Salidas

Si el pin no sera utilizado como entrada o salida seleccionarlo como "Unused".

Señal de Paro Externo (E stop)

Esta señal pude ser tipicamente seleccionado en la casilla desplegable. Una cadena de señal de paro tipica utiliza solo contactos normalmnete cerrados en serie.

Posicion de inicio y limites de seguridad (Homing & Limit Switches)

Estos pines pueden ser seleccionados para la mayoría de las configuraciones utilizando la casilla desplegable.

Bomba de Carga (Charge Pump)

Si el controlador de motores requiere de una señal de bomba de carga simplemente seleccione esta opción de la lista desplegable y conecte la señal al pin seleccionado. La salida de la bomba de carga será conectada a la tarjeta base por el programa Stepconf. La salida de bomba de carga será aproximadamente 1/2 de la máxima tasa de generación de pulsos de paso mostrados en la página de configuración básica.

5.5 Configuración de los Ejes

X Axis Configuration

<u>M</u> otor steps per revolution:	<input style="width: 150px;" type="text" value="200"/>	Test this axis
<u>D</u> river Microstepping:	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="2"/>	
<u>P</u> ulley teeth (Motor:Leadscrew):	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="1"/>	: <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="1"/>
<u>L</u> eadscrew Pitch:	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="20"/>	rev / in
Maximum <u>V</u> elocity:	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="1"/>	in / s
Maximum <u>A</u> cceleration:	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="30"/>	in / s ²
<u>H</u> ome location:	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="0"/>	
Table travel:	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="0"/>	to <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="8"/>
Home <u>S</u> witch location:	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="0"/>	
Home Search velocity:	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="0.05"/>	
Home Latch direction:	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Same</div>	
Time to accelerate to max speed:	0.0333 s	
Distance to accelerate to max speed:	0.0167 in	
Pulse rate at max speed:	8000.0 Hz	
Axis SCALE:	8000.0 Steps / in	

Cancel

Back

Forward

Figure 5.5: Página de configuración de eje

Pasos del motor por revolución (Motor Steps Per Revolution)

El número de pasos completos por revolución del motor. Si solo se tiene el dato de los grados por paso del motor (ejemplo 1.8 grados), se debe dividir 360 por el número de grados por paso para encontrar el número de pasos por revolución.

Micro pasos (Driver Microstepping)

El numero de micropasos producidos por el controlador por cada paso fisico completo del motor. entre "2" para medio paso. (ejemplo, si el controlador produce 1/10 de giro de un paso completo en la flecha del motor por cada pulso de paso que recibe, escriba 10 en la casilla.

Relacion de Poleas (Pulley Ratio)

Si su maquina tiene poleas o engranes entre el motor y el tornillo, escriba la relacion aqui. Si no, escriba "1:1".

Paso del tornillo (Leadscrew Pitch)

Entre el paso del tornillo aqui. Si se selecciono unidades en "Inch", entre el numero de cuerdas por pulgada (ejemplo, entre 8 para 8 TPI). Si se tiene un tornillo con multiples cuerdas se requiere saber cuantas vueltas por pulgada se requieren para mover la "nues". Si se selecciono *mm* como unidades, entre el numero de milímetros que la "nues" se movera por revolucion (ejemplo, entre 2 para 2 mm/rev). Si la maquina se mueve en la direccion opuesta a la esperada, entre un valor negativo, o invierta la direccion del pin para el eje.

Velocidad Maxima (Maximum Velocity)

Entre la velocidad maxima del eje en unidades por segundo.

Aceleracion Maxima (Maximum Acceleration)

El valor correcto de esta casilla solo puede ser determinado por experimentacion. Vea [?] para ajustar la velocidad [?] para ajustar la aceleracion.

Posicion de Inicio (Home Location)

La posicion a la que la maquina se movera despues de completar el procedimiento de inicio del eje. Para maquinas sin interruptores de posicion de inicio, esta es la posicion a la cual el operador debera mover la maquina antes de precionar el boton de inicializar el eje (Home). Si se combinan los interruptores de inicio y de limite se debera mover la maquina fuera del interruptor para inicializar el eje o se recibira un error de limite en el eje.

Area de la bancada (Table Travel)

El rango de viaje que el codigo g no podra sobrepasar. La posicion de inicializacion del eje debe estar dentro del area de bancada. En particular, tener la posicion de inicializacion (Home) de un eje exactamente en un limite del area de bancada producira una configuracion invalida.

Localizacion de los interruptores de inicializacion (Home Switch Location)

La posicion en la cual el interruptor de inicializacion se activa o desactiva durante un proceso de inicializacion. Este apartado y los dos siguientes solo apareceran cuando se seleccione la existencia de interruptores de limite en la configuracion de los pines del puerto paralelo. Si se combinan los interruptores de limite y de inicializacion la posicion del interruptor de inicializacion no puede ser la misma que la posicion de inicializacion o se producira un error de limite en el eje.

Velocidad de inicializacion (Home Search Velocity)

La velocidad usada en la busqueda de los interruptores. Si el interruptor se encuentra cercano al limite de viaje del eje, esta velocidad debe ser seleccionada de tal forma que el eje tenga suficiente tiempo para desacelerar hasta detenerse antes de llegar al limite fisico de la bancada. Si el interruptor se encuentra cercano por un rango de viaje corto (En lugar de estar cercano desde el punto de inicio al final del viaje), la velocidad debera ser seleccionada de tal forma que el eje pueda desacelerar hasta detenerse antes de que el interruptor se abra otra vez, el procedimiento de inicializacion debera ser comenzarse siempre del mismo lado del interruptor. Si la maquina se mueve en la direccion contraria al inicio de la inicializacion, cambie el signo a negativo del parametro **Home Search Velocity**.

Direccion de busqueda de posicion de inicio (Home Latch Direction)

Seleccione "Igual (Same)" para que el interruptor sea liberado y posteriormente la maquina se acerque a el a muy baja velocidad. La segunda vez que el interruptor se cierre, se definira la posicion de inicializacion. Seleccione "Opuesto (Opposite)" para realizar la inicializacion moviendose despacio fuera del interruptor, cuando el interruptor se abra la posicion de inicializacion sera marcada.

Tiempo para acelerar a maxima velocidad (Time to accelerate to max speed)

Tiempo calculado.

Distancia para acelerar a maxima velocidad (Distance to accelerate to max speed)

Distancia calculada.

Taza de generacion de pulsos a maxima velocidad (Pulse rate at max speed)

Este dato se calcula en base a los valores anteriores. El valor maximo de la **Taza de generacion de pulsos a maxima velocidad** determina el **Periodo base**. Valores por encima de 20000Hz pueden producir tiempos de respuesta muy bajos o incluso bloqueos (La taza de generacion maxima de pulsos varia entre computadoras)

Escala del Eje (Axis SCALE)

El numero que sera usado en el archivo ini en la seccion [SCALE]. Representa cuantos pasos se deben dar por unidad de usuario.

Probar este Eje (Test this axis)

Esta opcion abre una ventana para permitir probar cada eje. Esta opcion puede ser utilizada despues de llenar toda la informacion referente al eje.

5.5.1 Probar este Eje

Figure 5.6: Probar este Eje

Con Stepconf es sencillo probar diferentes valores de aceleracion y velocidad.

5.5.1.1 Busqueda de Velocidad Maxima

Comiense con una aceleracion baja (por ejemplo, **2 pulgadas/s²** or **50 mm/s²**) la velocidad que se desea obtener. Utilizando los botones disponibles, mueva el eje cerca al centro de su carrera. Tenga cuidado porque con un valor de aceleracion bajo, puede tomarle al eje una sorprendente distancia para desacelerar hasta detenerse.

Despues de medir la cantidad de espacio de movimiento disponible para el eje, introduzca una distancia segura en el area de prueba, mantenga en mente que despues de un atoramiento, el motor puede acontinuacion comenzar a moverse en una direccion inesperada. Entonses haga click en la opcion Correr (Run).

La maquina comenzara a moverse hacia adelante y atras a lo largo del eje. En esta prueba, es importante que la combinacion de aceleracion y area de prueba permita a la maquina alcanzar la velocidad seleccionada y que la bancada viaje por almenos una distancia corta a esta velocidad—entre mas distancia mejor sera la prueba. La formula $d = 0.5 * v * v/a$ proporciona la minima distancia requerida para alcanzar la velocidad especificada con la aceleracion seleccionada. Si es conveniente y seguro de hacer, precione la bancada contra la direccion del movimiento para simular las fuerzas de corte. si la maquina se detiene, reduzca la velocidad y comiense la prueba de nuevo.

Si la maquina no se detiene de manera evidente, precione el boton *Run* de nuevo, para detener la prueba. La maquina regresara a la posicion donde comenzo la prueba. Si la posicion es incorrecta, la maquina perdio pasos o se detubo durante la prueba. Redusca la velocidad y comienze la prueba de nuevo.

Si la maquina no se mueve, se detiene, o pierde pasos, sin importar cuan baja sea la velocidad seleccionada, verifique lo siguiente:

- Valores correctos de la forma de pulsos de pasos
- Selecccion correcta de los pines de salida del puerto, incluyendo si es necesario la opcion de *Invertido*
- Cableado blindado para reducir interferencia
- Problemas fisicos con el motor, acoplamientos, tornillos embalados o de bolas, etc.

Una ves que se encuentre una velocidad a la cual el eje no se detenga o pierda pasos durante la prueba, redusca la velocidad un 10% y utilice esta nueva velocidad como velocidad Maxima.

5.5.1.2 Encontrando la maxima aceleracion

Con la velocidad maxima que se encontro en el paso anterior, introduca un valor de aceleracion a probar. Utilizando el mismo procedimiento antes descrito, redusca la aceleracion si en necesario. En esta prueba, es importante que la combinacion de Aceleracion y area de prueba permita a la maquina alcanzar la velocidad seleccionada. Una ves que se encuentre un valor de aceleracion en el cual la maquina no pierda pasos o se detenga durante la prueba, redusca el valor encontrado un 10% y utilice este nuevo valor como el valor de Aceleracion Maxima.

5.6 Configuración del Husillo



Spindle Configuration

PWM Rate: 100 Hz Enter 0 Hz for "PDM" mode

Calibration:

Speed 1: 100 PWM 1: 0.2

Speed 2: 800 PWM 2: 0.8

Cycles per revolution: 100

Cancel Back Forward

Figure 5.7: Página configuración del Husillo

Esta página solo aparece cuando la opción *Spindle PWM* es seleccionada en la página de selección de las salidas 'Parallel Port Pinout

5.6.1 Control de la velocidad del Husillo

Si la opción *Spindle PWM* fue seleccionada en el mapeo de salidas, la siguiente información debe ser proporcionada:

Taza de PWM (PWM Rate)

La frecuencia portadora de la señal PWM que controlara la velocidad del Husillo. Introduzca un 0 para modo PDM, El cual es útil para generar un voltaje de control. Revise la documentación del controlador del husillo para el valor adecuado.

Velocidad 1 y 2, PWM 1 y 2

Los archivos de configuración generados usan una relación lineal simple para determinar el valor de PWM para un valor de

RPM dado. Si los valores son desconocidos, pueden ser determinados. Para mas informacion vease la seccion: ([Determining Spindle Calibration](#))

===Sincronizacion de movimientos del Husillo (Cuerdas automaticas y uso de machuelo)

Cuando son proporcionadas las señales correctas desde un encoder conectado a LinuxCNC utilizando los componentes del HAL (Capa de abstraccion de Hardware), LinuxCNC soportara el roscado en torno. Las señales requeridas son:

Indice del Husillo

Es un pulso que ocurre una vez por revolucion del Husillo.

Fase A del Husillo

Es un pulso que ocurre en varias ocasiones igualmente espaciadas conforme el husillo gira.

Fase B del Husillo (Opcional)

Este es un pulso secundario que ocurre en desfase con respecto al pulso de Fase A. La ventaja de usar ambos pulsos A y B son la capacidad de determinar la direccion del giro, aumento de la inmunidad al ruido y el aumento de la resolucion.

Si las opciones de *Fase A* e *Indice del Husillo* fueron seleccionadas en la configuracion del puerto, la siguiente informacion debera ser introducida:

Ciclos por revolucion

El numero de ciclos de la señal fase A que se producen durante una vuelta completa del husillo. Esta opcion solo se encontrara disponible Si alguna de las entradas de configuracion del puerto fue seleccionada como *Spindle Phase A*

Velocidad Maxima al momento de hacer una cuerda

Seleccionar la maxima velocidad permitida al momento de hacer una cuerda. Para un husillo de altas RPM o un encoder con alta resolucion, un valor bajo de *BASE_PERIOD* es requerido.

5.6.2 Determinacion de la Calibracion del Husillo

Introduzca los siguientes valores en la pagina de configuracion del husillo:

Speed 1:	0	PWM 1:	0
Speed 2:	1000	PWM 2:	1

Termine los pasos restantes del proceso de configuracion, posteriormente inicie LinuxCNC con la configuracion recién creada. Encienda la maquina y seleccione la pestaña MDI. Encienda el husillo entrando el comando: *M3 S100*. Cambie la velocidad del husillo entrando un valor diferente de parametro S: *S800*. Valores validos en este momento van desde 1 hasta 1000.

Para dos valores de parametro S diferentes, mida las RPM que el husillo este proporcionando. Guarde los valores S utilizados en la prueba y los valores reales de RPM proporcionados por el husillo. Ejecute el programa Stepconf de nuevo. Para el parametro *Speed* introduzca la velocidad en RPM medida, y para *PWM* introduzca el valor del parametro S dividido entre 1000. Recuerde que debe tener dos valores del parametro S y sus correspondientes RPM proporcionadas por el husillo para generar un ajuste de velocidad lineal.

Debido a que la mayoría de los controladores de husillo presentan no linealidades en su respuesta es mejor hacer lo siguiente:

- Asegurese que las dos calibraciones utilizadas no se encuentren cerca en los valores de RPM proporcionados.
- Asegurese que las dos calibraciones se encuentren en los rangos de RPM que usted normalmente utilizara al maquinar.

Por lo tanto si el husillo debe de ir de las 0 RPM a las 8000 RPM, pero usted generalmente utiliza velocidades de las 400 RPM (10%) a las 4000 RPM (100%), vusque los valores de PWM que proporcionen 1600 RPM (40%) y 2800 RPM (70%).

5.7 Opciones de configuracion avanzada

Advanced Configuration Options

☐ Include Halui user interface component

☐ Include custom PyVCP GUI panel

☒ Blank program

☐ Spindle speed display

☐ Existing custom program

☒ Include connections to HAL

Display sample panel

☐ Include Classicladder PLC

setup number of external pins

☐ Include modbus master support

☒ Blank ladder program

☐ Estop ladder program

☐ Serial modbus program

☐ Existing custom program

☒ Include connections to HAL

Edit ladder program

Cancel Back Forward

Figure 5.8: Configuracion avanzada

Incluir Halui

Esta opcion incluire la interface de usuario Halui. (Control remoto de los parametros de pantalla de la GUI) Vea el manual del integrador para mas detalles.

Incluir pyVCP

Esta opcion agrega el pnel base de pyVCP y un archivo simple para comenzar a trabajar en el. Vea el manual del integrador para mas detalles.

Incluir ClassicLadder PLC

Esta opcion agregara el ClassicLadder PLC (Programmable Logic Controller). Vea el manual del integrador para mas detalles.

5.8 Terminando de configurar la Maquina

Seleccione *Apply* para escribir los archivos de configuracion. Mas tarde puede correrse el programa de configuracion *Stepconf* de nuevo y recuperar los valores que se introdujeron anteriormente.

5.9 Carrera de Eje, Localizacion de los interruptores de inicio y la posicion inicial

Para cada eje, existe un rango limitado de carrera. El limite fisico de la carrera se conoce como *hard stop*.

Antes de alcanzar el limite fisico *hard stop* existe un interruptor de limite *limit switch*. Si se encuentra el interruptor de limite durante la operacion normal, EMC apagara el controlador del eje. La distancia entre el limite fisico y el interruptor de limite debe ser suficiente para permitir al eje sin energia detenerse.

Antes del interruptor de limite existe un limite suave *soft limit*. Este es un limite determinado por programa despues de la rutina de inicializacion. Si un comando MDI o G excede el limite suave, el comando no se ejecutara. Si un movimiento manual del eje excede el limite suave, el movimiento es terminado en el limite suave.

El interruptor de inicializacion *home switch* puede ser colocado en cualquier lugar de la carrera del eje entre los dos limites fisicos del eje. Mientras algun dispositivo externo no desactive los controladores de motor cuando el interruptor de limite es activado, uno de los interruptores de limite puede ser utilizado para la posicion de inicializacion.

La posicion cero *zero position* es la posicion en el eje que tienen el valor de 0 en el sistema coordinado de la maquina. Usualmente la posicion cero se encontrara dentro de los limites suaves. En los tornos, la opcion de velocidad de superficie constante requiere que la posicion $X=0$ corresponda al centro de rotacion del husillo cuando no exista alguna compensacion en la herramienta.

La posicion de inicializacion es la posicion a la que el eje sera desplazado al final de la secuencia de inicializacion. Este valor debe de encontrarse dentro de los limites suaves. En particular la posicion de inicializacion nunca debe ser igual a un limite suave.

5.9.1 Operacion sin interruptores de limite

Una maquina puede ser operada sin interruptores de limite. En ese caso, solo los limites suaves detendran al eje de alcanzar el limite fisico. Los limites suaves solo operan despues de que se a ejecutado la rutina de inicializacion.

5.9.2 Operacion sin limites de inicializacion

Una maquina puede ser operada sin interruptores de inicializacion. Si la maquina tiene interruptores de limite pero no de inicializacion, es mejor utilizar un interruptor de limite como interruptor de inicializacion (ejemplo, seleccione la opcion *Minimum Limit + Home X* cuando configure el puerto en *Stepconf*). Si la maquina no tiene interruptores de ningun tipo, o si los interruptores no pueden ser utilizados como interruptores de inicializacion por cualquier otra razon, entonces la maquina debera ser inicializada a mano, o utilizando marcas en la bancada. la inicializacion a mano no es tan confiable como la inicializacion con interruptores, pero permite seguir utilizando los limites suaves.

5.9.3 Opciones de cableado de los interruptores de inicializacion y limite

El cableado ideal debe de incluir un interruptor por señal. Sin embargo, el puerto paralelo del computador solo ofrece un total de 5 entradas, mientras que se necesitan 9 en una maquina de 3 ejes. Por lo tanto, Varios interruptores pueden ser cableados en conjunto en diversas formas para permitir utilizar menos entradas.

La siguiente figura muestra la idea general de cablear varios interruptores a una unica entrada. En el caso ilustrado, cuando un interruptor es precionado, El valor mandado atraves de la entrada va de un valor logico ALTO a BAJO. Sin embargo LinuxCNC espera un valor logico ALTO cuando un interruptor es precionado, Por lo tanto se debera seleccionar la opcion de inversion *Invert* cuando se configure la entrada del puerto paralelo en el *Stepconf*.

La resistencia de polarizacion mostrada en el diagrama fija la señal de entrada a ALTO Amenos que una conexion a tierra sea realizada, en tal caso la señal ira a BAJO. Sin la resistencia la entrada quedaria flotando y la entrada podria variar entre ALTO y BAJO cuando el circuito este abierto. Un valor tipico de resistencia de polarizacion es de 47K.

Interruptores normalmente cerrados Cableado de Interruptores Normalmente Cerrados en serie (diagrama simplificado)**Interruptores normalmente abiertos** Cableado de interruptores normalmente abiertos en paralelo (diagrama simplificado)

Las siguientes configuraciones de interruptores están permitidas en Stepconf:

- Interruptores de inicialización combinados para todos los ejes
- Interruptores de límite combinados para todos los ejes
- Combinar ambos interruptores de límite para un eje
- Combinar ambos interruptores de límite y el interruptor de inicialización para un eje
- Combinar un interruptor de límite y el interruptor de inicialización de un eje

Chapter 6

Mesa Configuration Wizard

PNCconf is made to help build configurations that utilize specific Mesa *Anything I/O* products.

It can configure closed loop servo systems or hardware stepper systems. It uses a similar *wizard* approach as Stepconf (used for software stepping, parallel port driven systems).

PNCconf is still in a development stage (Beta) so there are some bugs and lacking features. Please report bugs and suggestions to the LinuxCNC forum page or mail-list.

There are two trains of thought when using PNCconf:

One is to use PNCconf to always configure your system - if you decide to change options, reload PNCconf and allow it to configure the new options. This will work well if your machine is fairly standard and you can use custom files to add non standard features. PNCconf tries to work with you in this regard.

The other is to use PNCconf to build a config that is close to what you want and then hand edit everything to tailor it to your needs. This would be the choice if you need extensive modifications beyond PNCconf's scope or just want to tinker with / learn about LinuxCNC

You navigate the wizard pages with the forward, back, and cancel buttons there is also a help button that gives some help information about the pages, diagrams and an output page.

Tip

PNCconf's help page should have the most up to date info and has additional details.

Step by Step Instructions



Figure 6.1: PnCConf Splash

6.1 Create or Edit

This allows you to select a previously saved configuration or create a new one. If you pick *Modify a configuration* and then press next a file selection box will show. Pncconf preselects your last saved file. Choose the the config you wish to edit. It also allows you to select desktop shortcut / launcher options. A desktop shortcut will place a folder icon on the desktop that points to your new configuration files. Otherwise you would have to look in your home folder under emc2/configs.

A Desktop launcher will add an icon to the desktop for starting your config directly. You can also launch it under Application-s/cnc/emc2 and selecting your config name.

6.2 Basic Machine Information

Basic machine information

Machine Basics

Machine Name:

Configuration directory:

Axis configuration:

Machine units:

Computer Response Time

Actual Servo Period: ns

Recommend servo period: 1000000

I/O Control Ports/ Boards

☒ Mesa0 PCI / Parport Card:

☐ Mesa1 PCI / Parport Card:

☒ First Parport Address:

☐ Second Parport Address:

☐ Third Parport Address:

GUI frontend list

☒ Axis

☐ TKemc

☐ Mini

☐ Touchy

Figure 6.2: PnCConf Basic

Machine Basics

If you use a name with spaces PNCconf will replace the spaces with underscore (as a loose rule Linux doesn't like spaces in names) Pick an axis configuration - this selects what type of machine you are building and what axes are available. The Machine units selector allows data entry of metric or imperial units in the following pages.

Tip

Defaults are not converted when using metric so make sure they are sane values!

Computer Response Time

The servo period sets the heart beat of the system. Latency refers to the amount of time the computer can be longer then that period. Just like a railroad, LinuxCNC requires everything on a very tight and consistent time line or bad things happen. LinuxCNC requires and uses a *real time* operating system, which just means it has a low latency (lateness)

response time when LinuxCNC requires its calculations and when doing LinuxCNC's calculations it cannot be interrupted by lower priority requests (such as user input to screen buttons or drawing etc).

Testing the latency is very important and a key thing to check early. Luckily by using the Mesa card to do the work that requires the fastest response time (encoder counting and PWM generation) we can endure a lot more latency than if we used the parallel port for these things. The standard test in LinuxCNC is checking the BASE period latency (even though we are not using a base period). If you press the *test base period jitter* button, this launches the latency test window (you can also load this directly from the applications/cnc panel). The test mentions to run it for a few minutes but the longer the better. consider 15 minutes a bare minimum and overnight even better. At this time use the computer to load things, use the net, use USB etc we want to know the worst case latency and to find out if any particular activity hurts our latency. We need to look at base period jitter. Anything under 20000 is excellent - you could even do fast software stepping with the machine 20000 - 50000 is still good for software stepping and fine for us. 50000 - 100000 is really not that great but could still be used with hardware cards doing the fast response stuff. So anything under 100000 is useable to us. If the latency is disappointing or you get a bad hiccup periodically you may still be able to improve it.

Tip

There is a user compiled list of equipment and the latency obtained on the LinuxCNC wiki : <http://wiki.linuxcnc.org/cgi-bin/emcinfo.pl?Latency-Test> Please consider adding your info to the list. Also on that page are links to info about fixing some latency problems.

Now we are happy with the latency and must pick a servo period. In most cases a servo period of 1000000 ns is fine (that gives a 1 kHz servo calculation rate - 1000 calculations a second) if you are building a closed loop servo system that controls torque (current) rather than velocity (voltage) a faster rate would be better - something like 200000 (5 kHz calculation rate). The problem with lowering the servo rate is that it leaves less time available for the computer to do other things besides LinuxCNC's calculations. Typically the display (GUI) becomes less responsive. You must decide on a balance. Keep in mind that if you tune your closed loop servo system then change the servo period you probably will need to tune them again.

I/O Control Ports/Boards

PNCconf is capable of configuring machines that have up to two Mesa boards and three parallel ports. Parallel ports can only be used for simple low speed (servo rate) I/O.

Mesa

You must choose at least one Mesa board as PNCconf will not configure the parallel ports to count encoders or output step or PWM signals. The mesa cards available in the selection box are based on what PNCconf finds for firmware on the systems. There are options to add custom firmware and/or *blacklist* (ignore) some firmware or boards using a preference file. If no firmware is found PNCconf will show a warning and use internal sample firmware - no testing will be possible. One point to note is that if you choose two PCI Mesa cards there currently is no way to predict which card is 0 and which is 1 - you must test - moving the cards could change their order. If you configure with two cards both cards must be installed for tests to function.

Parallel Port

Up to 3 parallel ports (referred to as parports) can be used as simple I/O. You must set the address of the parport. You can either enter the Linux parallel port numbering system (0,1,or 2) or enter the actual address. The address for an on board parport is often 0x0278 or 0x0378 (written in hexadecimal) but can be found in the BIOS page. The BIOS page is found when you first start your computer you must press a key to enter it (such as F2). On the BIOS page you can find the parallel port address and set the mode such as SPP, EPP, etc on some computers this info is displayed for a few seconds during start up. For PCI parallel port cards the address can be found by pressing the *parport address search* button. This pops up the help output page with a list of all the PCI devices that can be found. In there should be a reference to a parallel port device with a list of addresses. One of those addresses should work. Not all PCI parallel ports work properly. Either type can be selected as *in* (maximum amount of input pins) or *out* (maximum amount of output pins)

GUI Frontend list

This specifies the graphical display screens LinuxCNC will use. Each one has different option.

AXIS

- fully supports lathes.
-

- is the most developed and used frontend
- is designed to be used with mouse and keyboard
- is tkinter based so integrates PYVCP (python based virtual control panels) naturally.
- has a 3D graphical window.
- allows VCP integrated on the side or in center tab

TOUCHY

- Touchy was designed to be used with a touchscreen, some minimal physical switches and a MPG wheel.
- requires cycle-start, abort, and single-step signals and buttons
- It also requires shared axis MPG jogging to be selected.
- is GTK based so integrates GLADE VCP (virtual control panels) naturally.
- allows VCP panels integrated in the center Tab
- has no graphical window
- look can be changed with custom themes

MINI

- standard on OEM Sherline machines
- does not use Estop
- no VCP integration

TkLinuxCNC

- hi contrast bright blue screen
- separate graphics window
- no VCP integration

6.3 External Configuration

This page allows you to select external controls such as for jogging or overrides.

External Controls

☐ **USB Joystick Jogging**
 Details

☐ **External Button Jogging**
 Details

☒ **External MPG Jogging**
 Details

☒ Shared MPG / selectable axis
☐ Mpg per axis
☒ selectable MPG increments

☐ increments

default	0.0000	in	d)	0.0000	in
a)	0.0001	in	ad)	0.0000	in
b)	0.0005	in	bd)	0.0000	in
ab)	0.0010	in	abc)	0.0000	in
c)	0.0050	in	cd)	0.0000	in
ac)	0.0100	in	acd)	0.0000	in
bc)	0.0500	in	bcd)	0.0000	in
abc)	0.1000	in	abcd)	0.0000	in

Mux options
☒ use debounce 0.20 Sec
☒ use gray code
☐ ignore all inputs false

☐ **External Feed Override**
 Details

☐ **Max Velocity Override**
 Details

☐ **External Spindle Override**
 Details

Help
Cancel
Back
Forward

Figure 6.3: GUI External

If you select a Joystick for jogging, You will need it always connected for LinuxCNC to load. To use the analog sticks for useful jogging you probably need to add some custom HAL code. MPG jogging requires a pulse generator connected to a MESA encoder counter. Override controls can either use a pulse generator (MPG) or switches (such as a rotary dial). External buttons might be used with a switch based OEM joystick.

Joystick jogging

Requires a custom *device rule* to be installed in the system. This is a file that LinuxCNC uses to connect to LINUX's device list. PNCconf will help to make this file.

Search for device rule will search the system for rules, you can use this to find the name of devices you have already built with PNCconf.

Add a device rule will allow you to configure a new device by following the prompts. You will need your device available.

test device allows you to load a device, see its pin names and check its functions with halmeter.

joystick jogging uses HALUI and hal_input components.

External buttons

allows jogging the axis with simple buttons at a specified jog rate. Probably best for rapid jogging.

MPG Jogging

Allows you to use a Manual Pulse Generator to jog the machine's axis.

MPG's are often found on commercial grade machines. They output quadrature pulses that can be counted with a MESA encoder counter. PNCconf allows for an MPG per axis or one MPG shared with all axis. It allows for selection of jog speeds using switches or a single speed.

The selectable increments option uses the mux16 component. This component has options such as debounce and gray code to help filter the raw switch input.

Overrides

PNCconf allows overrides of feedrates and/or spindle speed using a pulse generator (MPG) or switches (eg. rotary).

6.4 GUI Configuration

Here you can set defaults for the display screens, add virtual control panels (VCP), and set some LinuxCNC options..

GUI configuration

Frontend

GUI Options

▼ **General GUI Defaults**

Position_offset: Relative

Position_feedback: Actual

▶ AXIS defaults

▶ Touchy

Max Spindle Override: 200 %

Min Spindle Override: 50 %

Max Feed Override: 200 %

Virtual Control Panel

☐ Include custom PyVCP GUI panel

▶ Pyvcp Details

☐ Include custom GladeVCP GUI panel

▶ Gladevcp Details

▼ **Defaults and Options**

☒ Require homing before MDI / Running

☒ Popup Toolchange Prompt

☐ Leave spindle on during tool change

☐ Force individual manual homing

☐ Move spindle up before tool change

☐ Restore joint position after shutdown

☐ Random position toolchanger

[Help](#) [Cancel](#) [Back](#) [Forward](#)

Figure 6.4: GUI Configuration

Frontend GUI Options

The default options allows general defaults to be chosen for any display screen.

AXIS defaults are options specific to AXIS. If you choose size , position or force maximize options then PNCconf will ask if it's alright to overwrite a preference file (.axisrc). Unless you have manually added commands to this file it is fine to allow it. Position and force max can be used to move AXIS to a second monitor if the system is capable.

Touchy defaults are options specific to Touchy. Most of Touchy's options can be changed while Touchy is running using the preference page. Touchy uses GTK to draw its screen, and GTK supports themes. Themes controls the basic look and feel of a program. You can download themes from the net or edit them yourself. There are a list of the current themes on the computer that you can pick from. To help some of the text to stand out PNCconf allows you to override the Themes's defaults. The position and force max options can be used to move Touchy to a second monitor if the system is capable.

VCP options

Virtual Control Panels allow one to add custom controls and displays to the screen. AXIS and Touchy can integrate these controls inside the screen in designated positions. There are two kinds of VCPs - pyVCP which uses *Tkinter* to draw the screen and GLADE VCP that uses *GTK* to draw the screen.

PyVCP

PyVCPs screen XML file can only be hand built. PyVCPs fit naturally in with AXIS as they both use TKinter.

HAL pins are created for the user to connect to inside their custom HAL file. There is a sample spindle display panel for the user to use as-is or build on. You may select a blank file that you can later add your controls *widgets* to or select a spindle display sample that will display spindle speed and indicate if the spindle is at requested speed.

PNCconf will connect the proper spindle display HAL pins for you. If you are using AXIS then the panel will be integrated on the right side. If not using AXIS then the panel will be separate *stand-alone* from the frontend screen.

You can use the geometry options to size and move the panel, for instance to move it to a second screen if the system is capable. If you press the *Display sample panel* button the size and placement options will be honoured.

GLADE VCP

GLADE VCPs fit naturally inside of TOUCHY screen as they both use GTK to draw them, but by changing GLADE VCP's theme it can be made to blend pretty well in AXIS. (try Redmond)

It uses a graphical editor to build its XML files. HAL pins are created for the user to connect to, inside of their custom HAL file.

GLADE VCP also allows much more sophisticated (and complicated) programming interaction, which PNCconf currently doesn't leverage. (see GLADE VCP in the manual)

PNCconf has sample panels for the user to use as-is or build on. With GLADE VCP PNCconf will allow you to select different options on your sample display.

Under *sample options* select which ones you would like. The zero buttons use HALUI commands which you could edit later in the HALUI section.

Auto Z touch-off also requires the classicladder touch-off program and a probe input selected. It requires a conductive touch-off plate and a grounded conductive tool. For an idea on how it works see:

http://wiki.linuxcnc.org/cgi-bin/emcinfo.pl?ClassicLadderExamples#Single_button_probe_touchoff

Under *Display Options*, size, position, and force max can be used on a *stand-alone* panel for such things as placing the screen on a second monitor if the system is capable.

You can select a GTK theme which sets the basic look and feel of the panel. You Usually want this to match the frontend screen. These options will be used if you press the *Display sample button*. With GLADE VCP depending on the frontend screen, you can select where the panel will display.

You can force it to be stand-alone or with AXIS it can be in the center or on the right side, with Touchy it can be in the center.

Defaults and Options

- Require homing before MDI / Running
 - If you want to be able to move the machine before homing uncheck this checkbox.
- Popup Tool Prompt
 - Choose between an on screen prompt for tool changes or export standard signal names for a User supplied custom tool changer Hal file
- Leave spindle on during tool change:
 - Used for lathes
- Force individual manual homing
- Move spindle up before tool change
- Restore joint position after shutdown
 - Used for non-trivial kinematics machines
- Random position toolchangers
 - Used for toolchangers that do not return the tool to the same pocket. You will need to add custom HAL code to support toolchangers.

6.5 Mesa Configuration

The Mesa configuration pages allow one to utilize different firmwares. On the basic page you selected a Mesa card here you pick the available firmware and select what and how many components are available.

Mesa0 Configuration-Board: 5i20 firmware: SVST8_4

Configuration Page I/O Connector 2 I/O Connector 3 I/O Connector 4

Click on each page tab to configure signal names for each connector port.

The spin buttons below on this page allow you to select the amounts of different types of components. Press the button to make the tabbed pages accept the changes.

Board name: 5i20

Firmware: SVST8_4

Mesa parport address: 0x378

PWM base frequency: 20000 Hz

PDM base frequency: 6000 Hz

Watchdog timeout: 10000000 ns

Num of encoders: 4

Num of pwm generators: 4

Num of step generators: 3

Num of GPIO: 42

Total number of pins: 72

Accept components Changes

Sanity Checks

- ☐ 7i29 daughter board
- ☐ 7i30 daughter board
- ☐ 7i33 daughter board
- ☐ 7i40 daughter board

Help Cancel Back Forward

Figure 6.5: Mesa Configuration

Parport address is used only with Mesa parport card, the 7i43. An onboard parallel port usually uses 0x278 or 0x378 though you should be able to find the address from the BIOS page. The 7i43 requires the parallel port to use the EPP mode, again set in the BIOS page. If using a PCI parallel port the address can be searched for by using the search button on the basic page.

Note

Many PCI cards do not support the EPP protocol properly.

PDM PWM and 3PWM base frequency sets the balance between ripple and linearity. If using Mesa daughter boards the docs for the board should give recommendations

**Important**

It's important to follow these to avoid damage and get the best performance.

The 7i33 requires PDM and a PDM base frequency of 6 mHz
The 7i29 requires PWM and a PWM base frequency of 20 Khz
The 7i30 requires PWM and a PWM base frequency of 20 Khz
The 7i40 requires PWM and a PWM base frequency of 50 Khz
The 7i48 requires UDM and a PWM base frequency of 24 Khz

Watchdog time out is used to set how long the MESA board will wait before killing outputs if communication is interrupted from the computer. Please remember Mesa uses *active low* outputs meaning that when the output pin is on, it is low (approx 0 volts) and if it's off the output is high (approx 5 volts) make sure your equipment is safe when in the off (watchdog bitten) state.

You may choose the number of available components by deselecting unused ones. Not all component types are available with all firmware.

Choosing less then the maximum number of components allows one to gain more GPIO pins. If using daughter boards keep in mind you must not deselect pins that the card uses. For instance some firmware supports two 7i33 cards, If you only have one you may deselect enough components to utilize the connector that supported the second 7i33. Components are deselected numerically by the highest number first then down with out skipping a number. If by doing this the components are not where you want them then you must use a different firmware. The firmware dictates where, what and the max amounts of the components. Custom firmware is possible, ask nicely when contacting the LinuxCNC developers and Mesa. Using custom firmware in PNCconf requires special procedures and is not always possible - Though I try to make PNCconf as flexible as possible.

After choosing all these options press the *Accept Component Changes* button and PNCconf will update the I/O setup pages. Only I/O tabs will be shown for available connectors, depending on the Mesa board.

6.6 Mesa I/O Setup

The tabs are used to configure the input and output pins of the Mesa boards. PNCconf allows one to create custom signal names for use in custom HAL files.

Mesa0 Configuration-Board: 5i20 firmware: SVST8_4

Configuration Page		I/O Connector 2		I/O Connector 3		I/O Connector 4	
Num	function	Pin Type	Inv	Num	function	Pin Type	Inv
1:	X Encoder	Quad Encoder-B	<input type="checkbox"/>	3:	Multi Hand Wheel	Quad Encoder-B	<input type="checkbox"/>
	X Encoder	Quad Encoder-A	<input type="checkbox"/>		Multi Hand Wheel	Quad Encoder-A	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Spindle Encoder	Quad Encoder-B	<input type="checkbox"/>		Unused Encoder	Quad Encoder-B	<input type="checkbox"/>
0:	Spindle Encoder	Quad Encoder-A	<input type="checkbox"/>	2:	Unused Encoder	Quad Encoder-A	<input type="checkbox"/>
	X Encoder	Quad Encoder-I	<input type="checkbox"/>		Multi Hand Wheel	Quad Encoder-I	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Spindle Encoder	Quad Encoder-I	<input type="checkbox"/>		Unused Encoder	Quad Encoder-I	<input type="checkbox"/>
1:	X Axis PWM	Pulse Width Gen-P	<input type="checkbox"/>	3:	Unused PWM Gen	Pulse Width Gen-P	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Spindle PWM	Pulse Width Gen-P	<input type="checkbox"/>		Unused PWM Gen	Pulse Width Gen-P	<input type="checkbox"/>
	X Axis PWM	Pulse Width Gen-D	<input type="checkbox"/>		Unused PWM Gen	Pulse Width Gen-D	<input type="checkbox"/>
0:	Spindle PWM	Pulse Width Gen-D	<input type="checkbox"/>	2:	Unused PWM Gen	Pulse Width Gen-D	<input type="checkbox"/>
	X Axis PWM	Pulse Width Gen-E	<input type="checkbox"/>		Unused PWM Gen	Pulse Width Gen-E	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Spindle PWM	Pulse Width Gen-E	<input type="checkbox"/>		Unused PWM Gen	Pulse Width Gen-E	<input type="checkbox"/>

Figure 6.6: Mesa I/O C2

On this tab with this firmware the components are setup for a 7i33 daughter board, usually used with closed loop servos. Note the component numbers of the encoder counters and PWM drivers are not in numerical order. This follows the daughter board requirements.

Mesa0 Configuration-Board: 5i20 firmware: SVST8_4

Configuration Page		I/O Connector 2	I/O Connector 3	I/O Connector 4
Num	function	Pin Type	Inv	
024:	X Minimum Limit + Hom	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
025:	X Maximum Limit	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
026:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
027:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
028:	Limits	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
029:	Home	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
030:	Limits/Home Shared	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
031:	Digital	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
032:	Axis Selection	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
033:	Overrides	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
034:	Spindle	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
035:	Operation	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	External Control	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Axis rapid			
	X BLDC Control			
	Y BLDC Control			
	Z BLDC Control			
	A BLDC Control			
	S BLDC Control			
	Custom Signals			

Num	function	Pin Type	Inv
036:	Jog incr A	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
037:	Jog incr B	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
038:	Jog incr C	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
039:	Joint select A	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
040:	Joint select B	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
041:	Spindle ON	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>
042:	Spindle CW	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>
043:	Spindle CCW	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>
044:	Unused Output	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>
045:	Coolant Flood	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>
046:	Unused Output	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>
047:	Unused Output	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>

Help
Cancel
Back
Forward

Figure 6.7: Mesa I/O C3

On this tab all the pins are GPIO. Note the 3 digit numbers - they will match the HAL pin number. GPIO pins can be selected as input or output and can be inverted.

Mesa0 Configuration-Board: 5i20 firmware: SVST8_4

Configuration Page		I/O Connector 2	I/O Connector 3	I/O Connector 4
Num	function	Pin Type	Inv	
0:	Y Axis StepGen	Step Gen-A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Y Axis StepGen	Dir Gen-B	<input type="checkbox"/>	
050:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
051:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
052:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
053:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1:	Z Axis StepGen	Step Gen-A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Z Axis StepGen	Dir Gen-B	<input type="checkbox"/>	
056:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
057:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
058:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
059:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2:	A Axis StepGen	Step Gen-A	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	A Axis StepGen	Dir Gen-B	<input type="checkbox"/>	
062:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
063:	Unused Input	GPIO Input	<input type="checkbox"/>	
064:	Limits	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	
065:	Home	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	
066:	Limits/Home Shared	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	
067:	Digital	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	
068:	Axis Selection	GPIO Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	
069:	Spindle	Spindle	<input type="checkbox"/>	
070:	Operation	Manual Spindle CW	<input type="checkbox"/>	
071:	External Control	Manual Spindle CCW	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Axis rapid	Manual Spindle Stop	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	X BLDC Control	Spindle Up-To-Speed	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Y BLDC Control			
	Z BLDC Control			
	A BLDC Control			
	S BLDC Control			
	Custom Signals			

Figure 6.8: Mesa I/O C4

On this tab there are a mix of step generators and GPIO. Step generators output and direction pins can be inverted. Note that inverting a Step Gen-A pin (the step output pin) changes the step timing. It should match what your controller expects.

6.7 Parport configuration

First Parallel Port set for OUTPUT

Outputs (PC to Machine):		Invert	Inputs (Machine to PC):		Invert
Pin 1:	Digital out 0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 2:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 2:	Machine Is Enabled	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 3:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 3:	X Amplifier Enable	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 4:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 4:	Z Amplifier Enable	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 5:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 5:	Unused Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 6:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 6:	Unused Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 7:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 7:	Unused Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 8:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 8:	Unused Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 9:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 9:	Unused Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 10:	Digital in 0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 14:	Unused Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 11:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 16:	Unused Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 12:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pin 17:	Unused Output	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pin 13:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Pin 15:	Unused Input	<input type="checkbox"/>

Launch Test Panel

Help

Cancel

Back

Forward

The parallel port can be used for simple I/O similar to Mesa's GPIO pins.

6.8 Axis Configuration

X Axis Motor/Encoder Configuration

Servo Info

P: 1.0000
 I: 0.0000
 D: 0.0000
 FF0: 0.0000
 FF1: 0.0000
 FF2: 0.0000
 Bias: 0.0000
 Deadband: 0.0000

Dac Output Scale: 10.00
 Dac Max Output: 10.00
 Dac Output Offset: 0.0000
 Quad Pulses / Rev: 4000

Stepper Info

Step On-Time: 1000
 Step Space: 1000
 Direction Hold: 1000
 Direction Setup: 1000
 Driver Type: Custom

☐ **Use Brushless Motor Control**

Details

Rapid Speed Following Error: 0.0050 inch
 Feed Speed Following Error: 0.0005 inch
☒ **Invert Motor Direction**
☐ **Invert Encoder Direction**

encoder Scale: 4000.000
 Stepper Scale: 0.000
 Maximum Velocity: 250 inch / min
 Maximum Acceleration: 2.0 inch / sec²

Test / Tune Axis

Buttons: Help, Cancel, Back, Forward

Figure 6.9: Axis Drive Configuration

This page allows configuring and testing of the motor and/or encoder combination . If using a servo motor an open loop test is available, if using a stepper a tuning test is available.

Open Loop Test

An open loop test is important as it confirms the direction of the motor and encoder. The motor should move the axis in the positive direction when the positive button is pushed and also the encoder should count in the positive direction. The axis movement should follow the Machinery's Handbook ¹ standards or AXIS graphical display will not make much sense. Hopefully the help page and diagrams can help figure this out. Note that axis directions are based on TOOL movement not table movement. There is no acceleration ramping with the open loop test so start with lower DAC numbers. By moving the axis a known distance one can confirm the encoder scaling. The encoder should count even without the amp enabled depending on how power is supplied to the encoder.

¹"axis nomenclature" in the chapter "Numerical Control" in the "Machinery's Handbook" published by Industrial Press.

**Warning**

If the motor and encoder do not agree on counting direction then the servo will run away when using PID control.

Since at the moment PID settings can not be tested in PNCconf the settings are really for when you re-edit a config - enter your tested PID settings.

DAC scaling, max output and offset are used to tailor the DAC output.

Compute DAC

These two values are the scale and offset factors for the axis output to the motor amplifiers. The second value (offset) is subtracted from the computed output (in volts), and divided by the first value (scale factor), before being written to the D/A converters. The units on the scale value are in true volts per DAC output volts. The units on the offset value are in volts. These can be used to linearize a DAC.

Specifically, when writing outputs, the LinuxCNC first converts the desired output in quasi-SI units to raw actuator values, e.g., volts for an amplifier DAC. This scaling looks like: The value for scale can be obtained analytically by doing a unit analysis, i.e., units are [output SI units]/[actuator units]. For example, on a machine with a velocity mode amplifier such that 1 volt results in 250 mm/sec velocity, Note that the units of the offset are in machine units, e.g., mm/sec, and they are pre-subtracted from the sensor readings. The value for this offset is obtained by finding the value of your output which yields 0.0 for the actuator output. If the DAC is linearized, this offset is normally 0.0.

The scale and offset can be used to linearize the DAC as well, resulting in values that reflect the combined effects of amplifier gain, DAC non-linearity, DAC units, etc. To do this, follow this procedure:

- Build a calibration table for the output, driving the DAC with a desired voltage and measuring the result:

Table 6.1: Output Voltage Measurements

Raw	Measured
-10	-9.93
-9	-8.83
0	-0.96
1	-0.03
9	9.87
10	10.07

- Do a least-squares linear fit to get coefficients a, b such that $meas = a * raw + b$
- Note that we want raw output such that our measured result is identical to the commanded output. This means
 - $cmd = a * raw + b$
 - $raw = (cmd - b) / a$
- As a result, the a and b coefficients from the linear fit can be used as the scale and offset for the controller directly.

MAX OUTPUT: The maximum value for the output of the PID compensation that is written to the motor amplifier, in volts. The computed output value is clamped to this limit. The limit is applied before scaling to raw output units. The value is applied symmetrically to both the plus and the minus side.

Tuning Test The tuning test unfortunately only works with stepper based systems. Again confirm the directions on the axis is correct. Then test the system by running the axis back and forth, If the acceleration or max speed is too high you will lose steps. While jogging, Keep in mind it can take a while for an axis with low acceleration to stop. Limit switches are not functional during this test. You can set a pause time so each end of the test movement. This would allow you to set up and read a dial indicator to see if you are losing steps.

Stepper Timing Stepper timing needs to be tailored to the step controller's requirements. Pncconf supplies some default controller timing or allows custom timing settings . See http://wiki.linuxcnc.org/cgi-bin/emcinfo.pl?Stepper_Drive_Timing for some more known timing numbers (feel free to add ones you have figured out). If in doubt use large numbers such as 5000 this will only limit max speed.

Brushless Motor Control These options are used to allow low level control of brushless motors using special firmware and daughter boards. It also allows conversion of HALL sensors from one manufacturer to another. It is only partially supported and will require one to finish the HAL connections. Contact the mail-list or forum for more help.

Step Motor Scale

☒ Pulley teeth (motor:Leadscrew):

1

↑

↓

:

2

↑

↓

☐ Worm turn ratio (Input:Output)

1

↑

↓

:

1

↑

↓

☒ Microstep Multiplication Factor:

5

↑

↓

☐ Leadscrew Metric Pitch

5.0000

↑

↓

mm / rev

☒ Leadscrew TPI

5.0000

↑

↓

TPI

Motor steps per revolution:

200

↑

↓

Encoder Scale

☐ Pulley teeth (encoder:Leadscrew):

1

↑

↓

:

1

↑

↓

☐ Worm turn ratio (Input:Output)

1

↑

↓

:

1

↑

↓

☐ Leadscrew Metric Pitch

5.0000

↑

↓

mm / rev

☐ Leadscrew TPI

5.0000

↑

↓

TPI

Encoder lines per revolution:

1000

↑

↓

X 4 = Pulses/Rev

Calculated Scale

motor steps per unit:

10000.0000

encoder pulses per unit:

4000.0000

Motion Data

Calculated Axis SCALE:

10000.0 Steps / inch

Resolution:

0.0001000 inch / Step

Time to accelerate to max speed:

0.8335 sec

Distance to acheave max speed:

0.6947 inch

Pulse rate at max speed:

16.7 Khz

Motor RPM at max speed:

1000 RPM

Cancel

Apply

Figure 6.10: Axis Scale Calculation

The scale settings can be directly entered or one can use the *calculate scale* button to assist. Use the check boxes to select appropriate calculations. Note that *pulley teeth* requires the number of teeth not the gear ratio. Worm turn ratio is just the opposite it requires the gear ratio. If your happy with the scale press apply otherwise push cancel and enter the scale directly.

X Axis Configuration

Positive Travel Distance (Machine zero Origin to end of + travel):		8.0
Negative Travel Distance (Machine zero Origin to end of - travel):		0.0
Home Position location (offset from machine zero Origin):		0.0
Home Switch location (Offset from machine zero Origin):		0.0
Home Search Velocity:	3	inch / min
Home Search Direction:	Towards Negative limit	
Home latch Velocity:	1	inch / min
Home Latch Direction:	Same	
Home Final Velocity:	0	inch / min
Use Encoder Index For Home:	NO	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Use Compensation File: </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Type 1</div> <div>filename:</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">xcompensation</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start; margin-top: 5px;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Use Backlash Compensation: </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0.0000</div> </div>		

Help
Cancel
Back
Forward

Figure 6.11: Axis Configuration

Also refer to the diagram tab for two examples of home and limit switches. These are two examples of many different ways to set homing and limits.

**Important**

It is very important to start with the axis moving in the right direction or else getting homing right is very difficult!

Remember positive and negative directions refer to the TOOL not the table as per the Machinists handbook.

ON A TYPICAL KNEE OR BED MILL

- when the TABLE moves out that is the positive Y direction
- when the TABLE moves left that is the positive X direction
- when the TABLE moves down that is the positive Z direction
- when the HEAD moves up that is the positive Z direction

ON A TYPICAL LATHE

- when the TOOL moves right, away from the chuck
- that is the positive Z direction
- when the TOOL moves toward the operator
- that is the positive X direction. Some lathes have X
- opposite (eg tool on back side), that will work fine but
- AXIS graphical display can not be made to reflect this.

When using homing and / or limit switches LinuxCNC expects the HAL signals to be true when the switch is being pressed / tripped. If the signal is wrong for a limit switch then LinuxCNC will think the machine is on end of limit all the time. If the home switch search logic is wrong LinuxCNC will seem to home in the wrong direction. What it actually is doing is trying to BACK off the home switch.

Decide on limit switch location.

Limit switches are the back up for software limits in case something electrical goes wrong eg. servo runaway. Limit switches should be placed so that the machine does not hit the physical end of the axis movement. Remember the axis will coast past the contact point if moving fast. Limit switches should be *active low* on the machine. eg. power runs through the switches all the time - a loss of power (open switch) trips. While one could wire them the other way, this is fail safe. This may need to be inverted so that the HAL signal in LinuxCNC in *active high* - a TRUE means the switch was tripped. When starting LinuxCNC if you get an on-limit warning, and axis is NOT tripping the switch, inverting the signal is probably the solution. (use HALMETER to check the corresponding HAL signal eg. axis.0.pos-lim-sw-in X axis positive limit switch)

Decide on the home switch location.

If you are using limit switches You may as well use one as a home switch. A separate home switch is useful if you have a long axis that in use is usually a long way from the limit switches or moving the axis to the ends presents problems of interference with material. eg a long shaft in a lathe makes it hard to home to limits with out the tool hitting the shaft, so a separate home switch closer to the middle may be better. If you have an encoder with index then the home switch acts as a coarse home and the index will be the actual home location.

Decide on the MACHINE ORIGIN position.

MACHINE ORIGIN is what LinuxCNC uses to reference all user coordinate systems from. I can think of little reason it would need to be in any particular spot. There are only a few G codes that can access the MACHINE COORDINATE system.(G53, G30 and G28) If using tool-change-at-G30 option having the Origin at the tool change position may be convenient. By convention, it may be easiest to have the ORIGIN at the home switch.

Decide on the (final) HOME POSITION.

this just places the carriage at a consistent and convenient position after LinuxCNC figures out where the ORIGIN is.

Measure / calculate the positive / negative axis travel distances.

Move the axis to the origin. Mark a reference on the movable slide and the non-moveable support (so they are in line) move the machine to the end of limits. Measure between the marks that is one of the travel distances. Move the table to the other end of travel. Measure the marks again. That is the other travel distance. If the ORIGIN is at one of the limits then that travel distance will be zero.

(machine) ORIGIN

The Origin is the MACHINE zero point. (not the zero point you set your cutter / material at). LinuxCNC uses this point to reference everything else from. It should be inside the software limits. LinuxCNC uses the home switch location to calculate the origin position (when using home switches or must be manually set if not using home switches).

Travel distance

This is the maximum distance the axis can travel in each direction. This may or may not be able to be measured directly from origin to limit switch. The positive and negative travel distances should add up to the total travel distance.

POSITIVE TRAVEL DISTANCE

This is the distance the Axis travels from the Origin to the positive travel distance or the total travel minus the negative travel distance. You would set this to zero if the origin is positioned at the positive limit. The will always be zero or a positive number.

NEGATIVE TRAVEL DISTANCE

This is the distance the Axis travels from the Origin to the negative travel distance. or the total travel minus the positive travel distance. You would set this to zero if the origin is positioned at the negative limit. This will always be zero or a negative number. If you forget to make this negative PNCconf will do it internally.

(Final) HOME POSITION

This is the position the home sequence will finish at. It is referenced from the Origin so can be negative or positive depending on what side of the Origin it is located. When at the (final) home position if you must move in the Positive direction to get to the Origin, then the number will be negative.

HOME SWITCH LOCATION

This is the distance from the home switch to the Origin. It could be negative or positive depending on what side of the Origin it is located. When at the home switch location if you must move in the Positive direction to get to the Origin, then the number will be negative. If you set this to zero then the Origin will be at the location of the limit switch (plus distance to find index if used)

Home Search Velocity

Course home search velocity in units per minute.

Home Search Direction

Sets the home switch search direction either negative (ie. towards negative limit switch) or positive (ie. towards positive limit switch)

Home Latch Velocity

Fine Home search velocity in units per minute

Home Final Velocity

Velocity used from latch position to (final) home position in units per minute. Set to 0 for max rapid speed

Home latch Direction

Allows setting of the latch direction to the same or opposite of the search direction.

Use Encoder Index For Home

LinuxCNC will search for an encoder index pulse while in the latch stage of homing.

Use Compensation File

Allows specifying a Comp filename and type. Allows sophisticated compensation. See Manual.

Use Backlash Compensation

Allows setting of simple backlash compensation. Can not be used with Compensation File. See Manual.



Figure 6.12: AXIS Help Diagram

The diagrams should help to demonstrate an example of limit switches and standard axis movement directions. In this example the Z axis was two limit switches, the positive switch is shared as a home switch. The MACHINE ORIGIN (zero point) is located at the negative limit. The left edge of the carriage is the negative trip pin and the right the positive trip pin. We wish the FINAL HOME POSITION to be 4 inches away from the ORIGIN on the positive side. If the carriage was moved to the positive limit we would measure 10 inches between the negative limit and the negative trip pin.

6.9 Spindle Configuration

If you select spindle signals then this page is available to configure spindle control.

Tip

Many of the option on this page will not show unless the proper option was selected on previous pages!

Spindle Motor/Encoder Configuration

Servo Info

P	1.0000
I	0.0000
D	0.0000
FF0	0.0000
FF1	0.0000
FF2	0.0000
Bias	0.0000
Deadband	0.0000

Stepper Info

Step On-Time	1000
Step Space	1000
Direction Hold	1000
Direction Setup	1000
Driver Type:	Custom

Dac Output Scale: 10.00

Dac Max Output: 10.00

Dac Output Offset: 0.0000

Quad Pulses / Rev: 4000

Open Loop Servo Test

☐ **Use Brushless Motor Control**

Details

☐ **Use Spindle-At-Speed**

Scale: 95 %

Rapid Speed Following Error: 0.0000 rev

Feed Speed Following Error: 0.0000 rev

☐ Invert Motor Direction

☐ Invert Encoder Direction

Test / Tune Axis

encoder Scale: 4000.000

Stepper Scale: 0.000

Maximum Velocity: 100 rev / min

Maximum Acceleration: 2.0 rev / sec²

Calculate Scale

Help

Cancel

Back

Forward

Figure 6.13: Spindle Configuration

This page is similar to the axis motor configuration page.

There are some differences:

- Unless one has chosen a stepper driven spindle there is no acceleration or velocity limiting.
- There is no support for gear changes or ranges.
- If you picked a VCP spindle display option then spindle-at-speed scale and filter settings may be shown.
- Spindle-at-speed allows LinuxCNC to wait till the spindle is at the requested speed before moving the axis. This is particularly handy on lathes with constant surface feed and large speed diameter changes. It requires either encoder feedback or a digital spindle-at-speed signal typically connected to a VFD drive.
- If using encoder feedback, you may select a spindle-at-speed scale setting that specifies how close the actual speed must be to the requested speed to be considered at-speed.

- If using encoder feedback, the VCP speed display can be erratic - the filter setting can be used to smooth out the display. The encoder scale must be set for the encoder count / gearing used.
- If you are using a single input for a spindle encoder you must add the line: `setp hm2_7i43.0.encoder.00.counter-mode 1` (changing the board name and encoder number to your requirements) into a custom HAL file. See the Hostmot2 section on encoders for more info about counter mode.

6.10 Advanced Options

This allows setting of HALUI commands and loading of classicladder and sample ladder programs. If you selected GLADE VCP options such as for zeroing axis, there will be commands showing. See the manual about info on HALUI for using custom halcmds. There are several ladder program options. The Estop program allows an external ESTOP switch or the GUI frontend to throw an Estop. It also has a timed lube pump signal. The Z auto touch-off is with a touch-off plate, the GLADE VCP touch-off button and special HALUI commands to set the current user origin to zero and rapid clear. The serial modbus program is basically a blank template program that sets up classicladder for serial modbus. See the classicladder section in the manual.

Advanced Options

☒ Include Halui user interface component / commands

Cmd 1	G10 L20 P0 XO	Cmd 6		Cmd 11	
Cmd 2		Cmd 7		Cmd 12	
Cmd 3		Cmd 8		Cmd 13	
Cmd 4		Cmd 9		Cmd 14	
Cmd 5		Cmd 10		Cmd 15	

☒ Include Classicladder PLC

▼ Setup number of external pins

Number of digital (bit) in pins: 15

Number of digital (bit) out pins: 15

Number of analog (s32) in pins: 10

Number of analog (s32) out pins: 10

Number of analog (float) in pins: 10

Number of analog (float) out pins: 10

☐ Include modbus master support

☐ Blank ladder program
☒ **Estop ladder program**
☐ Z Auto Touch off program
☐ Serial modbus program
☐ Existing custom program
☒ Include connections to HAL

Edit ladder program

Help Cancel Back Forward

Figure 6.14: Advanced Options

6.11 HAL Components

On this page you can add additional HAL components you might need for custom HAL files. In this way one should not have to hand edit the main HAL file, while still allowing user needed components.

HAL Component Page

Add HAL components with this page.

Component number of components

Absolute: 1
 PID: 0
 scale: 1
 mux16: 0

▼ **Custom Components Commands**

Load Command	Thread Command
loadrt example_comp	addf example_comp_calcs

Thread Speed
 Servo Thread
 Base Thread

Help Cancel Back Forward

Figure 6.15: HAL Components

The first selection is components that pncconf uses internally. You may configure pncconf to load extra instances of the components for your custom HAL file.

Select the number of instances your custom file will need, pncconf will add what it needs after them.

Meaning if you need 2 and pncconf needs 1 pncconf will load 3 instances and use the last one.

Custom Component Commands

This selection will allow you to load HAL components that pncconf does not use. Add the loadrt or loadusr command, under the heading *loading command*. Add the addf command under the heading *Thread command*. The components will be added to the thread between reading of inputs and writing of outputs, in the order you write them in the *thread command*.

6.12 Advanced Usage Of PNCconf

PNCconf does its best to allow flexible customization by the user. PNCconf has support for custom signal names, custom loading of components, custom HAL files and custom firmware.

There are also signal names that PNCconf always provides regardless of options selected, for user's custom HAL files. With some thought most customizations should work regardless if you later select different options in PNCconf.

Eventually if the customizations are beyond the scope of PNCconf's framework you can use PNCconf to build a base config or use one of LinuxCNC's sample configurations and just hand edit it to what ever you want.

Custom Signal Names

If you wish to connect a component to something in a custom HAL file write a unique signal name in the combo entry box. Certain components will add endings to your custom signal name:

Encoders will add < customname > +:

- position
- count
- velocity
- index-enable
- reset

Steppers add:

- enable
- counts
- position-cmd
- position-fb
- velocity-fb

PWM add:

- enable
- value

GPIO pins will just have the entered signal name connected to it

In this way one can connect to these signals in the custom HAL files and still have the option to move them around later.

Custom Signal Names

The Hal Components page can be used to load components needed by a user for customization.

Loading Custom Firmware

PNCconf searches for firmware on the system and then looks for the XML file that it can convert to what it understands. These XML files are only supplied for officially released firmware from the LinuxCNC team. To utilize custom firmware one must convert it to an array that PNCconf understands and add its filepath to PNCconf's preference file. By default this path searches the desktop for a folder named custom_firmware and a file named firmware.py.

The hidden preference file is in the user's home file, is named `.pncconf-preferences` and require one to select *show hidden files* to see and edit it. The contents of this file can be seen when you first load PNCconf - press the help button and look at the output page.

Ask on the LinuxCNC mail-list or forum for info about converting custom firmware. Not all firmware can be utilized with PNCconf.

Custom HAL Files

There are four custom files that you can use to add HAL commands to:

- `custom.hal` is for HAL commands that don't have to be run after the GUI frontend loads. It is run after the configuration-named HAL file.
 - `custom_postgui.hal` is for commands that must be run after AXIS loads or a standalone PYVCP display loads.
 - `custom_gvcp.hal` is for commands that must be run after glade VCP is loaded.
 - `shutdown.hal` is for commands to run when LinuxCNC shuts down in a controlled manner.
-

Chapter 7

Running LinuxCNC

7.1 Invoking LinuxCNC

After installation, LinuxCNC starts just like any other Linux program: run it from the terminal by issuing the command *emc*, or select it in the Applications - CNC menu.

7.2 Configuration Selector

By default, the Configuration Selector dialog is shown when you first run LinuxCNC. Your own personalized configurations are shown at the top of the list, followed by sample configurations. Because each sample configuration is for a different type of hardware interface, almost all will not run without the hardware installed. The configurations listed under the category *sim* run entirely without attached hardware.

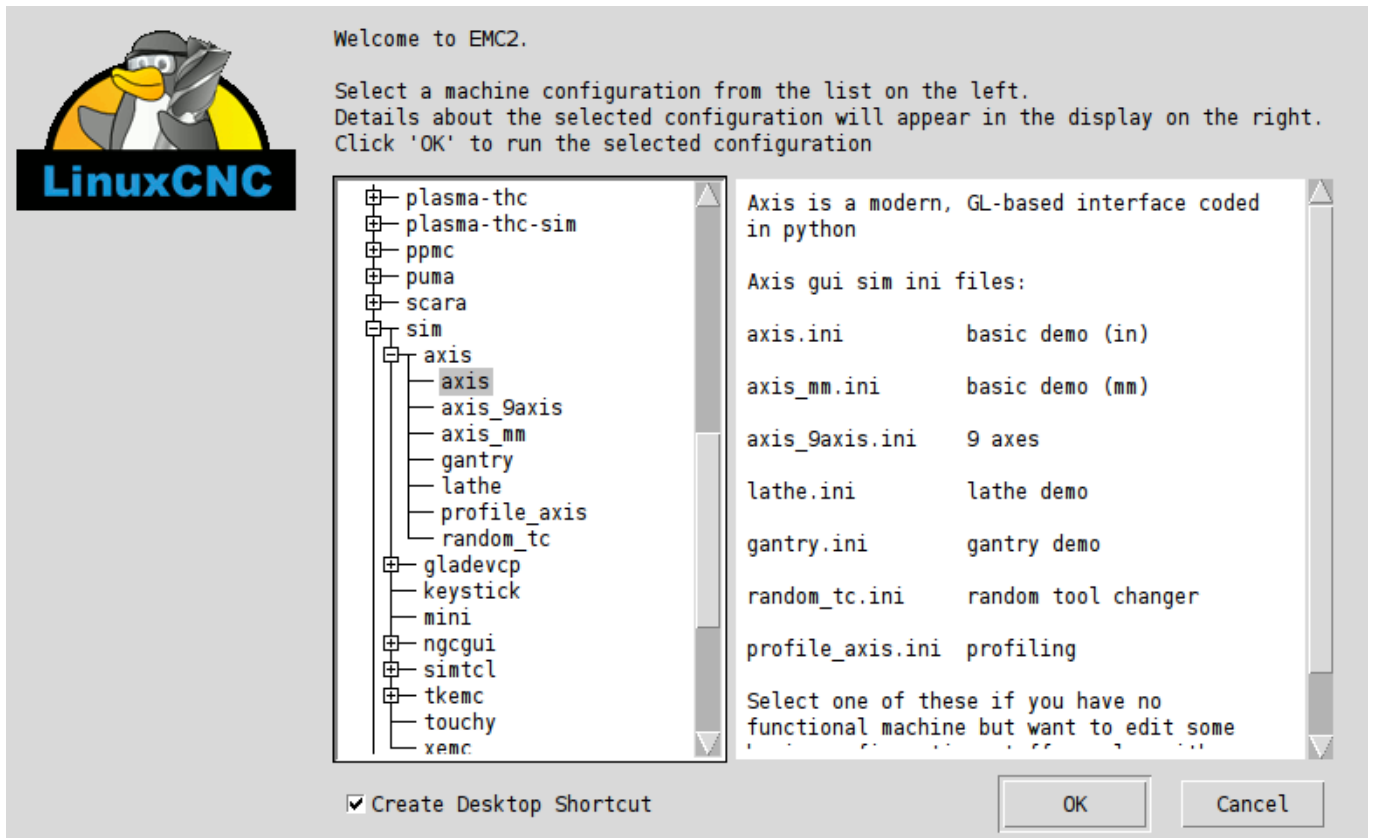


Figure 7.1: LinuxCNC Configuration Selector

Click any of the listed configurations to display specific information about it. Double-click a configuration or click OK to start the configuration. Select *Create Desktop Shortcut* and then click OK to add an icon on the Ubuntu desktop to directly launch this configuration without showing the Configuration Selector screen.

When you select a configuration from the Sample Configurations section, it will automatically place a copy of that config in the `emc/configs` directory.

7.3 Next steps in configuration

After finding the sample configuration that uses the same interface hardware as your machine, and saving a copy to your home directory, you can customize it according to the details of your machine. Refer to the Integrator Manual for topics on configuration.

Chapter 8

Linux FAQ

These are some basic Linux commands and techniques for new to Linux users. More complete information can be found on the web or by using the man pages.

8.1 Automatic Login

When you install LinuxCNC with the Ubuntu LiveCD the default is to have to log in each time you turn the computer on. To enable automatic login go to *System > Administration > Login Window*. If it is a fresh install the Login Window might take a second or three to pop up. You will have to have your password that you used for the install to gain access to the Login Window Preferences window. In the Security tab check off Enable Automatic Login and pick a user name from the list (that would be you).

8.2 Automatic Startup

To have LinuxCNC start automatically with your config after turning on the computer go to *System > Preferences > Sessions > Startup Applications*, click Add. Browse to your config and select the .ini file. When the file picker dialog closes, add emc and a space in front of the path to your .ini file.

Example:

```
emc /home/mill/emc2/config/mill/mill.ini
```

8.3 Man Pages

Man pages are automatically generated manual pages in most cases. Man pages are usually available for most programs and commands in Linux.

To view a man page open up a terminal window by going to *Applications > Accessories > Terminal*. For example if you wanted to find out something about the find command in the terminal window type:

```
man find
```

Use the Page Up and Page Down keys to view the man page and the Q key to quit viewing.

8.4 List Modules

Sometimes when troubleshooting you need to get a list of modules that are loaded. In a terminal window type:

```
lsmod
```

If you want to send the output from lsmod to a text file in a terminal window type:

```
lsmod > mymod.txt
```

The resulting text file will be located in the home directory if you did not change directories when you opened up the terminal window and it will be named mymod.txt or what ever you named it.

8.5 Editing a Root File

When you open the file browser and you see the Owner of the file is root you must do extra steps to edit that file. Editing some root files can have bad results. Be careful when editing root files. Generally, you can open and view most root files, but they will open in *read only* mode.

8.5.1 The Command Line Way

Open up *Applications > Accessories > Terminal*.

In the terminal window type

```
sudo gedit
```

Open the file with *File > Open > Edit*

8.5.2 The GUI Way

1. Right click on the desktop and select Create Launcher
2. Type a name in like sudo edit
3. Type *gksudo "gnome-open %u"* as the command and save the launcher to your desktop
4. Drag a file onto your launcher to open and edit

8.5.3 Root Access

In Ubuntu you can become root by typing in "sudo -i" in a terminal window then typing in your password. Be careful, because you can really foul things up as root if you don't know what you're doing.

8.6 Terminal Commands

8.6.1 Working Directory

To find out the path to the present working directory in the terminal window type:

```
pwd
```

8.6.2 Changing Directories

To move up one level in the terminal window type:

```
cd ..
```

To move up two levels in the terminal window type:

```
cd ../../
```

To move down to the emc2/configs subdirectory in the terminal window type:

```
cd emc2/configs
```

8.6.3 Listing files in a directory

To view a list of all the files and subdirectories in the terminal window type:

```
dir
```

or

```
ls
```

8.6.4 Finding a File

The find command can be a bit confusing to a new Linux user. The basic syntax is:

```
find starting-directory parameters actions
```

For example to find all the .ini files in your emc2 directory you first need to use the pwd command to find out the directory. Open a new terminal window and type:

```
pwd
```

And pwd might return the following result:

```
/home/joe
```

With this information put the command together like this:

```
find /home/joe/linuxcnc -name \*.ini -print
```

The -name is the name of the file your looking for and the -print tells it to print out the result to the terminal window. The *.ini tells find to return all files that have the .ini extension. The backslash is needed to escape the shell meta-characters. See the find man page for more information on find.

8.6.5 Searching for Text

```
grep -irl 'text to search for' *
```

This will find all the files that contain the *text to search for* in the current directory and all the subdirectories below it, while ignoring the case. The -i is for ignore case and the -r is for recursive (include all subdirectories in the search). The -l option will return a list of the file names, if you leave the -l off you will also get the text where each occurrence of the "text to search for" is found. The * is a wild card for search all files. See the grep man page for more information.

8.6.6 Bootup Messages

To view the bootup messages use "dmesg" from the command window. To save the bootup messages to a file use the redirection operator, like this:

```
dmesg > bootmsg.txt
```

The contents of this file can be copied and pasted on line to share with people trying to help you diagnose your problem.

To clear the message buffer type this:

```
sudo dmesg -c
```

This can be helpful to do just before launching LinuxCNC, so that there will only be a record of information related to the current launch of LinuxCNC.

To find the built in parallel port address use grep to filter the information out of dmesg.

After boot up open a terminal and type:

```
dmesg|grep parport
```

8.7 Convenience Items

8.7.1 Terminal Launcher

If you want to add a terminal launcher to the panel bar on top of the screen you typically can right click on the panel at the top of the screen and select "Add to Panel". Select Custom Application Launcher and Add. Give it a name and put gnome-terminal in the command box.

8.8 Hardware Problems

8.8.1 Hardware Info

To find out what hardware is connected to your motherboard in a terminal window type:

```
lspci -v
```

8.8.2 Monitor Resolution

During installation Ubuntu attempts to detect the monitor settings. If this fails you are left with a generic monitor with a maximum resolution of 800x600.

Instructions for fixing this are located here:

<https://help.ubuntu.com/community/FixVideoResolutionHowto>

8.9 Paths

Relative Paths Relative paths are based on the startup directory which is the directory containing the ini file. Using relative paths can facilitate relocation of configurations but requires a good understanding of linux path specifiers.

./f0	is the same as f0, e.g., a file named f0 in the startup directory
../f1	refers to a file f1 in the parent directory
../../f2	refers to a file f2 in the parent of the parent directory
../.../f3	etc.

Chapter 9

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