

1. Use today to finish your code for obtaining angles from the accelerometer and gyroscope. Plug all 5 accelerometer and gyroscope inputs into the Arduino. I have xAcc, yAcc and zAcc plugged in to ports 0,1,2, and xRate and yRate in 3 and 4. Power up the sensor, and **also connect the pin labelled AZ to ground**. To help you along if you're getting stuck at any point, here is my code for obtaining angles from the sensors.

<pre>// Code to get pitch and roll using ACCELEROMETER float xZero = 1.41; //zero the x voltage float yZero = 1.42; //zero the y voltage float zZero = 1.46; //zero the z voltage float xVoltage, yVoltage, zVoltage; float xAcc, yAcc, zAcc; float accScale = 0.27; void setup(){ Serial.begin(9600); } void loop(){ //convert sensor values to voltages xVoltage = 5*(analogRead(0)/1023.0); yVoltage = 5*(analogRead(1)/1023.0); zVoltage = 5*(analogRead(2)/1023.0); // convert voltages into accelerations // (in units of g) xAcc = (xVoltage-xZero)/accScale; yAcc = (yVoltage-yZero)/accScale; zAcc = (zVoltage-zZero)/accScale; //convert acceleration into angle using trigonometry float pitch = atan(xAcc/sqrt(pow(yAcc,2) + pow(zAcc,2))); float roll = atan(yAcc/sqrt(pow(xAcc,2) + pow(zAcc,2))); //convert radians into degrees pitch = pitch * (180.0/PI); roll = roll * (180.0/PI) ; Serial.print(pitch); Serial.print(","); Serial.println(roll); delay(100); } </pre>	<pre>//Code to get pitch and roll using GYROSCOPE float currentAngle = 0; //Keep track of our current angle float xZeroGyro = 1.33; //zero the x voltage float yZeroGyro = 1.35; //zero the y voltage int delaytime = 10; // a tiny delay time float pitch = 0; float roll = 0; float gyroScale = .002; // used to convert volts into // degrees/second (don't change this value) float rotationThreshold = 5; // A value in degrees / second // values lower than this will be ignored void setup() { Serial.begin(9600); } void loop() { // this next bit converts gyro sensor values to voltages, // subtracts away the zero value, // and converts voltage into degrees / second float xGyro = (5*(analogRead(3)/1023.0) - xZeroGyro)/ gyroScale; float yGyro = (5*(analogRead(4)/1023.0) - yZeroGyro)/ gyroScale; delay(delaytime); // If the angular velocity exceeds a threshold // Then update the angle (this helps with the drift problem) if (xGyro >= rotationThreshold xGyro <= -rotationThreshold){ roll = roll - xGyro*delaytime/1000.0; } if (yGyro >= rotationThreshold yGyro <= -rotationThreshold){ pitch = pitch + yGyro*delaytime/1000.0; } Serial.print(pitch); Serial.print(","); Serial.println(roll); } </pre>
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Check that your programs work for some test angles using the Serial Monitor or the Processing program.

2. Now we'd like to combine input from the gyroscope and the accelerometer. The reason for this is that accelerometers are noisy, and gyros tend to drift. So we will use each one to compensate for the shortcomings of the other.

One way to do this is simply to combine your two programs together. Let's say we have a variable that stores the pitch angle from the last time your program went through the loop. Call this variable **pitch**.

We can update the angle using the gyroscope:
pitch_gyro = pitch + yGyro*delaytime/1000.0;

or we can just use the accelerometer to find the new angle
pitch_acc

These will give you two different answers. The final pitch, then is a weighted sum of the two:

pitch = 0.95*pitch_gyro + 0.05*pitch_acc

$$\begin{cases} \theta_{est}|_{t_2} = \alpha(\theta_{est}|_{t_1} + G\Delta t) + \beta\theta_{A_x} \\ \alpha + \beta = 1 \end{cases}$$

What this says is to mostly trust the gyroscope's angle, but to use the accelerometer a little bit to correct for the drift. You can play with the two coefficients (0.95 and 0.05) to see what works best, but remember that they must add to 1.

Check that this works properly, using the Serial Monitor or the Processing code.

Here is the final code that I used to do this (in case you're getting stuck):

<pre>//ACCEL AND GYRO COMBINED CODE //ACCEL variables float xZero = 1.41; float yZero = 1.42; float zZero = 1.46; float xVoltage, yVoltage, zVoltage; float xAcc, yAcc, zAcc; float accScale = 0.27; float pitch_a, roll_a; //GYRO variables float gyroScale = .002; float rotationThreshold = 5; //Minimum deg/sec to keep track of - helps with gyro drifting float currentAngle = 0; //Keep track of our current angle float xZeroGyro = 1.33; float yZeroGyro = 1.35; int delaytime = 10; float pitch_g, roll_g; //initialize angles float pitch = 0;</pre>	<pre>//PROCESSING CODE FOR GRAPHING /* Accelerometer Tilt Context: Processing Takes the values in serially from an accelerometer attached to a microcontroller and uses them to set the angle of a disk on the screen. */ import processing.serial.*; // import the serial lib float pitch, roll; // pitch and roll float position; // position to translate to Serial myPort; //the Serial Port void setup() { // draw the window: size(400, 400, P3D); // calculate translate position for disc: position = width/2; // List all the available serial ports println(Serial.list()); // Open whatever port is the one you're using.</pre>
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float roll = 0;

void setup() {
  Serial.begin(9600);
}

void loop(){

//convert acceleration sensor values into voltages
xVoltage = 5*(analogRead(0)/1023.0);
yVoltage = 5*(analogRead(1)/1023.0);
zVoltage = 5*(analogRead(2)/1023.0);

//convert voltages into accelerations (in units of
g)
xAcc = (xVoltage-xZero)/accScale;
yAcc = (yVoltage-yZero)/accScale;
zAcc = (zVoltage-zZero)/accScale;

//convert acceleration into angle using
trigonometry
pitch_a = atan(xAcc/sqrt(pow(yAcc,2) +
pow(zAcc,2)));
roll_a = atan(yAcc/sqrt(pow(xAcc,2) +
pow(zAcc,2)));
//convert radians into degrees
pitch_a = pitch_a * (180.0/PI);
roll_a = roll_a * (180.0/PI) ;

//convert gyroscope sensor values into voltages
float xGyro = (5*(analogRead(3)/1023.0) -
xZeroGyro)/gyroScale;
float yGyro = (5*(analogRead(4)/1023.0) -
yZeroGyro)/gyroScale;

delay(delaytime);

//if the angular velocity exceeds a threshold
//update your angle using the angular velocity
if (xGyro >= rotationThreshold || xGyro <=
-rotationThreshold){
  roll_g = roll - xGyro*delaytime/1000.0;
}
if (yGyro >= rotationThreshold || yGyro <=
-rotationThreshold){
  pitch_g = pitch + yGyro*delaytime/1000.0;
}

//combine gyroscope and acceleromter angles
pitch = 0.95*pitch_g + 0.05*pitch_a;
roll = 0.95*roll_g + 0.05*roll_a;

Serial.print(pitch);
Serial.print(",");
Serial.println(roll);

}

myPort = new Serial(this, Serial.list()[0], 9600);
// only generate a serial event when you get a
newline:
myPort.bufferUntil('\n');
// enable smoothing for 3D:
//hint(ENABLE_OPENGL_4X_SMOOTH);
}

void draw () {
background(#20542E);
fill(#79BF3D);
// draw the disc:
tilt();
}

void tilt() {
// translate from origin to center:
translate(position, position, position);
// X is front-to-back:
rotateX(radians(roll + 90));
// Y is left-to-right:
rotateY(radians(pitch ) );
// set the disc fill color:
fill(#79BF3D);
// draw the disc:
ellipse(0, 0, width/4, width/4);
// set the text fill color:
fill(#20542E);
// Draw some text so you can tell front from back:
text(pitch + "," + roll, -40, 10, 1);
}

void serialEvent(Serial myPort) {
// read the serial buffer:
String myString = myPort.readStringUntil('\n');
// if you got any bytes other than the linefeed:
if (myString != null) {
  myString = trim(myString);
  // split the string at the commas
  String items[] = split(myString, ',');
  if (items.length > 1) {
    pitch = float(items[0]);
    roll = float(items[1]);
  }
}
}

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