# SENSORS



# **ROBOT = SENSORS + ACTUATORS +** COMPUTERS

### (SIMPLIFIED) CONTROL SCHEME OF MODERN MOBILE ROBOT



A **sensor** is a device that produces an output signal for the purpose of sensing of a physical phenomenon. In the broadest definition, a sensor is a device, module, machine, or subsystem that detects events or changes in its environment and sends the information to other electronics, frequently a <u>computer processor</u>. Sensors are always used with other electronics.

Devices which perform an "Input" function are commonly called **Sensors** because they "sense" a physical change in some characteristic that changes in response to some excitation, for example heat or force and covert that into an electrical signal. Devices which perform an "Output" function are generally called **Actuators** and are used to control some external device, for example movement or sound.

https://www.electronics-tutorials.ws/io/io\_1.html

Electrical **Transducers** are used to convert energy of one kind into energy of another kind, so for example, a microphone (input device) converts sound waves into electrical signals for the amplifier to amplify (a process), and a loudspeaker (output device) converts these electrical signals back into sound waves. The National Bureau of Standards (NBS) was founded by Congress on March 3, 1901 as an authoritative domestic **measurement and standards** laboratory, and was the first physical science research laboratory of the federal government. In 1988, the National Bureau of Standards was renamed the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Methods of Measurement for Semiconductor Materials, Process Control, and Devices Quarterly Report, October 1 to December 31, 1971

W. Murray Bullis, Editor

Lockheed Electronics Company, Inc.

# Dete Acquisition & Control Systems



#### Introduction

The temperature-current device (TCD) temperature sensor provides a breakthrough in low cost accurate temperature measurement. By taking advantage of the temperature sensitivity of a transistor's base-emitter voltage, a semi-conductor temperature transducer has been developed that provides a large and highly linear output. It eliminates the need for signal conditioning amplifiers, cold-junction compensators, and other costly accessories required by conventional temperature sensors (thermocouples, thermistors, and resistance-temperature devices). The output of the **TCD** temperature sensor is an industry standard 4 to 20 mA analog signal that may be sent directly to a central supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) computer or applied to a remote terminal unit (RTU) at the measurement location.







#### **Special Features**

#### **Specifications and Performance Characteristics**

- Solid-state sensor and amplifier elements
- Two-wire output
- Practically unlimited lead length
- High accuracy and linearity
- Choice of three ranges:
  -55 to + 45° C (-67 to + 113° F)
  0 to + 100° C (32 to + 212° F)
  -15 to + 125° C (5 to + 257° F)
- Maximum Supply Voltage
  Minimum Supply Voltage
  Operating Current Range
  Maximum Line and Load Resistance (See Figure 1)
- Thermal Time Constant
- Accuracy
- Repeatability
- Linearity
- Output

- 50 Vdc See Figure 2 3 to 22 mA
- 1500 ohms
  Less than 10 sec
  0.5% of span
  0.2%
  0.5% of span
  4 20 mA in calibration range

# Classification of sensors

- Proprioceptive ("sense of self", internal state).
  - Measures values internally to the system (robot), e.g. battery level, wheel position, joint angle, etc.
- Exteroceptive (external state).
  - Observations of robot environment, objects in it.

- Active (emits energy, e.g. radar) vs.
- Passive (passively receives energy, e.g., camera).

# **General sensor classification**

General classification (typical use)	Sensor Sensor System	PC or EC	A or P
Tactile sensors (detection of physical contact or	Contact switches, bumpers Optical barriers	EC EC	P A
closeness; security switches)	Noncontact proximity sensors	EC	А
Wheel/motor sensors	Brush encoders	PC	Р
(wheel/motor speed and position)	Potentiometers	PC	Р
	Synchros, resolvers	PC	А
	Optical encoders	PC	А
	Magnetic encoders	PC	А
	Inductive encoders	PC	А
	Capacitive encoders	PC	А
Heading sensors	Compass	EC	Р
(orientation of the robot in relation to	Gyroscopes	PC	Р
a fixed reference frame)	Inclinometers	EC	A/P

A, active; P, passive; P/A, passive/active; PC, proprioceptive; EC, exteroceptive.

# **General sensor classification 2**

General classification (typical use)	Sensor Sensor System	PC or EC	A or P
Ground-based beacons (localization in a fixed reference frame)	GPS Active optical or RF beacons Active ultrasonic beacons Reflective beacons	EC EC EC EC	A A A A
Active ranging (reflectivity, time-of-flight, and geo- metric triangulation)	Reflectivity sensors Ultrasonic sensor Laser rangefinder Optical triangulation (1D) Structured light (2D)	EC EC EC EC EC	A A A A A
Motion/speed sensors (speed relative to fixed or moving objects)	Doppler radar Doppler sound	EC EC	A A
Vision-based sensors (visual ranging, whole-image analy- sis, segmentation, object recognition)	CCD/CMOS camera(s) Visual ranging packages Object tracking packages	EC	Р

- 1\_CS417\_IntroductionToRobots\_McGill11-Sensors1GoodSlides.pdf
- 2\_sensors2CharacteristicsErrors\_Niku\_AtoD.pdf

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Fig 4.2 Quadrature optical wheel encoder: The observed phase relationship between channel A and B pulse trains are used to determine the direction of the rotation. A single slot in the outer track generates a reference (index) pulse per revolution.

http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~rasc/Download/AMRobots4.pdf





Fig 4.3 Digital compasses: Sensors such as the Digital/Analog hall effect sensors shown, available from Dinsmore [http://dinsmoregroup.com/dico], enable inexpensive (< \$US15) sensing of magnetic fields.

**Important:** The accuracy of the compass can be affected by magnetic or environmental interference; even the magnets in the iPhone EarPods can cause a deviation. Use the digital compass only for basic navigation assistance. Don't rely on it to determine precise location, proximity, distance, or direction.



### **Can Dead Men Vote Twice**

C = Compass Heading	291°
D = Deviation	+1
M = Magnetic Heading/Course	290°
V = Varition	5E
T = True Heading/Course	295°



*The Sperry Horizon*, Sperry Gyroscope Co. Brooklyn N.Y.



*Fig 4.4 Two axis mechanical gyroscope* 

https://www.aceinna.com/newsDetail?id=5f3a8587723b3716e24f89a4&gclid=Cj0KCQiAgP6PBhDmARIsAPWMq6kliVt O--20CXhTEVQstmmQS2t-I5XbahB1077S2UkkkuMOKtJIHAgaArVPEALw\_wcB



An IMU with six degrees-of-freedom is composed of multiple inertial MEMS sensors that are temperature compensated and calibrated to align on orthogonal axes An internal **three-axis gyroscope** capability measures rotation about a known point while a three-axis **accelerometer** measures displacement.

ACEINNA Inc., One Tech Drive, Suite 325, Andover, MA 01810

Fig 4.12









*Fig 4.5 Calculation of position and heading based on GPS* 



### 12 different types of sensors



### My Roomba is pretty smart! Humans have 5 senses ?

Pos. system	Short description	Advantage	Drawbacks		
Odometry	Position determination by integrating wheel speed information	• cheap	distance drift		
Inertial navigation	Sensing minor accelerations in all directional axes and integrating over time to derive velocity and position	<ul> <li>no ground contact needed</li> </ul>	<ul><li>time drift</li><li>expensive</li></ul>		
Compass	Measures direction heading based on Earth's magnetic field	<ul><li> cheap</li><li> no time drift</li></ul>	<ul> <li>sensitive to magnetic anomalies</li> <li>limited accuracy</li> </ul>		
Gyroscope	Direction heading based on the inertial prop- erties of a rapidly spinning motor or other techniques like optical gyroscope	• insensitive to mag- netic anomalies	<ul><li>time drift</li><li>expensive</li></ul>		
Ultrasonic distance	Time of flight measurement for an ultrasonic chirp (pulse) to travel to a reflective object	• cheap	<ul> <li>no focusing</li> <li>slow</li> <li>limited range</li> <li>artifact by echoes</li> </ul>		
Light/Laser triangulation	Reflection angle measurement of an emitted light beam	<ul><li> cheap</li><li> fast</li></ul>	• limited range		
Laser time of flight	Time of flight or phase shift measurement of an emitted light pulse	• fast	• expensive		
Landmark recognition	Distance and/or angle measurement between the robot and an artificial landmark	• absolute position	• external set up		
Stereo vision	Distance measurement by object recognition of two staggered images	• no external set up	<ul><li> complex algorithm</li><li> not reliable</li></ul>		
GPS	Global positioning system based on satellites	absolute position	• free sky view		
Table 1-1: Mostly used sensor system for robot positioning					



Jonny 5 - WHERE AM I?



"Little Lost Robot" is a science fiction short story by American writer <u>Isaac Asimov</u>. It was first published in the March 1947 issue of <u>Astounding Science Fiction</u> and reprinted in the collections <u>I, Robot</u> (1950), <u>The</u> <u>Complete Robot</u> (1982), <u>Robot Dreams</u> (1986), and <u>Robot Visions</u> (1990).



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-RX1GT4GT0

### Odometry Errors & Variance & Covariance

how



Consider u in the graph as your true value. The value in your Twist message has some error associated with it. If you set the s.d. for linear x as 1 (cov(linear x, linear x) = 1^2 = 1), it means if you take 100 measurements of linear x, 68.3% will lie between [truevalue-1], truevalue+1] i.e. [u-s.d.]







*Fig 4.31* The Gaussian function with  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = 1$ . We shall refer to this as the Reference Gaussian. The value  $2\sigma$  is often refereed for the signal quality. 95.44% of the values are falling within  $\pm 2\sigma$ .



Growth of the pose uncertainty for straight line movement: No.

http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~rasc/Download/AMRobots5.pdf