

Sensors

Types of Sensor

- **Proprioceptive:** Measures internal state of system. (Eg. Gyroscope)
- **Exteroceptive:** Measures external environment. (Eg. GPS)
- **Passive:** Measures ambient environment. (Eg. Camera)
- **Active:** Measures response of environment to energy emitted from a sensor. (Eg. Ultrasonic sensor)

Sensor Performance

Remember SCEAP!

- **Sensitivity:** Degree to which change in target input results in a sensor output.
- **Cross-Sensitivity:** Sensitivity to external disturbance from environment.
- **Error:** Deviation between actual and measured value
2 main types of error:
 - Systematic: Errors that can be modeled and compensated for.
 - Random: Error that can be modeled probabilistically.

$$\text{Error} = m - v$$

m = measured value

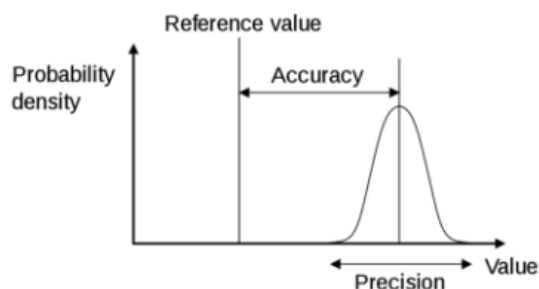
v = actual value

- **Accuracy:** Conformity between actual value and measured value.

$$\text{accuracy} = 1 - (|\text{error}|/v)$$

- **Precision:** Degree of agreement between multiple measurements of the same environment state.

$$\text{precision} = \frac{\text{range}}{\sigma} \propto \sigma^{-1}$$

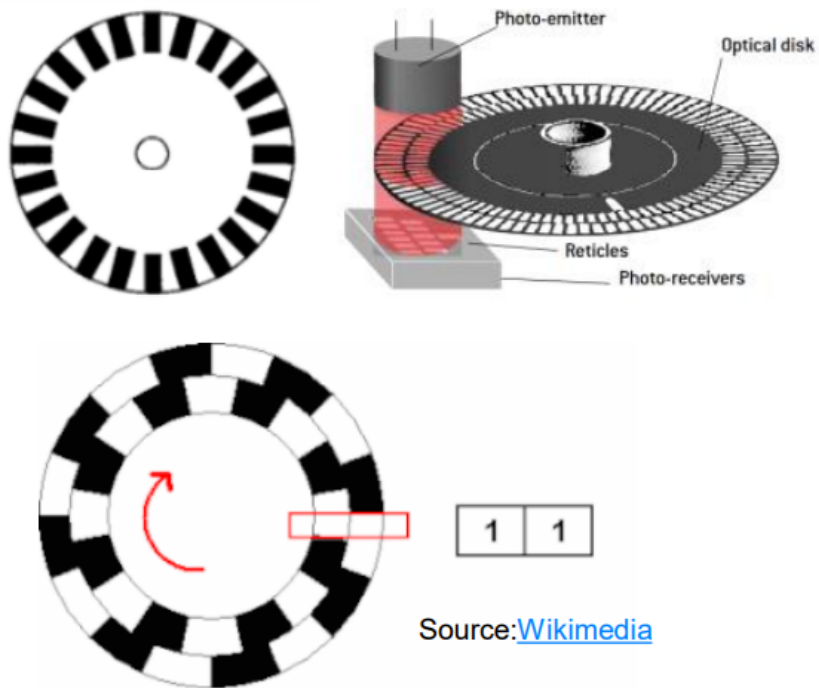


Sensors

Wheel Encoders

Optical Encoder

Disk attached to the wheel shaft with periodic pattern of opaque and transparent regions. Light source on one side of disk with a sensor on the other. Wheel rotation produces a series of pulses proportional to the rate of rotation. To get direction a Quadrature incremental encoder is used. This has 2 patterns that are 90 degrees out of phase.



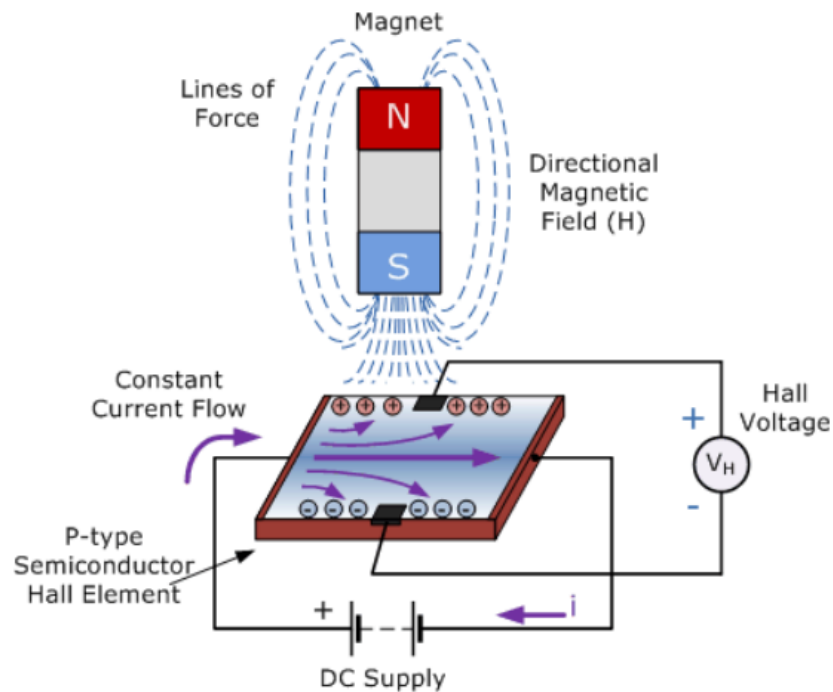
Source: [Wikimedia](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Optical_encoder.png)

Digital Compass

Uses Hall effect or Flux gate.

Hall effect:

- Voltage induces current across semiconductor.
- Magnetic field perturbs electrons, inducing a second voltage difference perpendicular to the flow.



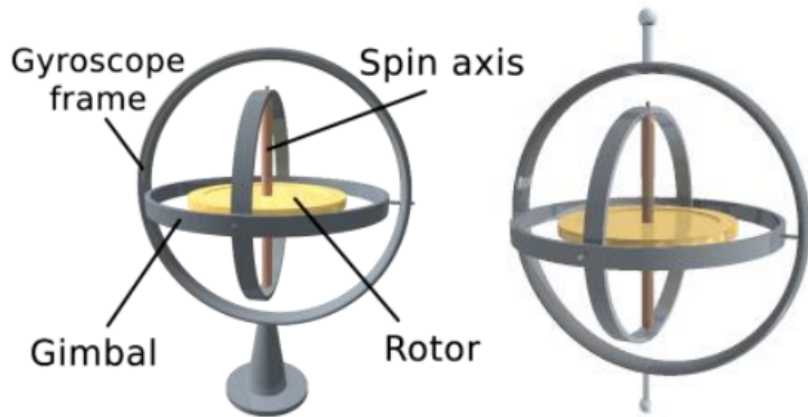
Gyroscopes

Provides orientation or angular velocity (Rate Gyro).

Mechanical

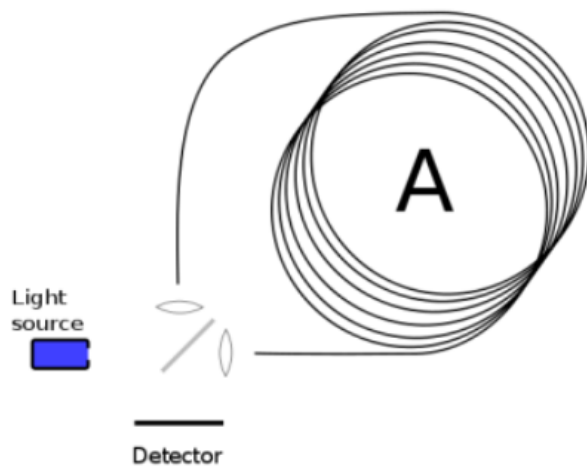
- Spinning proof mass.

- Maintains orientation due to conservation of angular momentum.



Fibre Optic

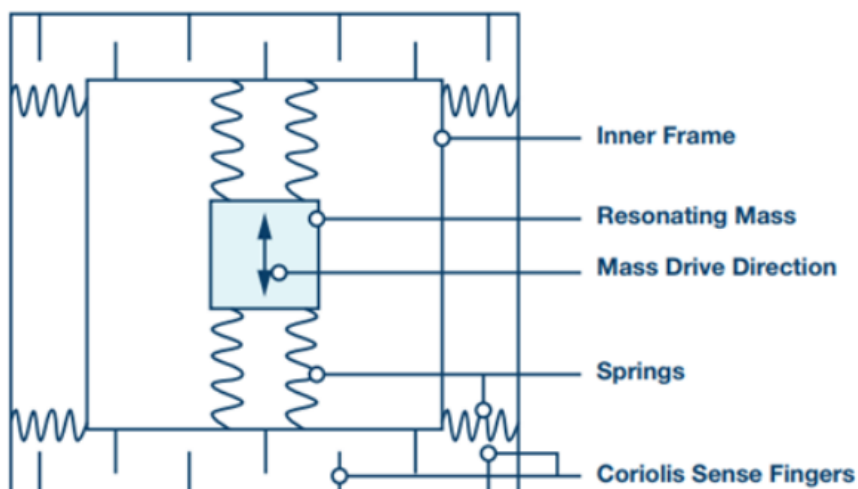
- Based off Sagnac effect.
- Coherent laser is passed simultaneously through opposite ends of a fibre optic.
- Rotation causes path shortening opposite to direction of rotation.
- Path shortening causes a phase shift.



MEMS

MicroElectroMechanical System are small scale IC based angular velocity sensing gyros.

- Vibrating mass to sense Coriolis acceleration in direction of rotation.
- **Coriolis sense fingers** measure the capacitive transduction due to deflection of the inner frame relative to the outer frame

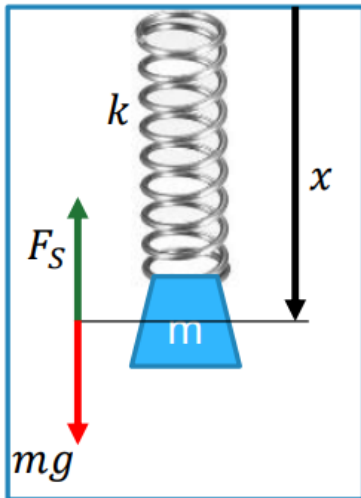


Accelerometers

Measure linear accelerations using something similar to a spring-mass-damper.

k = spring constant
 x = displacement of mass
 a = acceleration of accelerometer
 g = acceleration due to gravity
 m = mass of proof mass

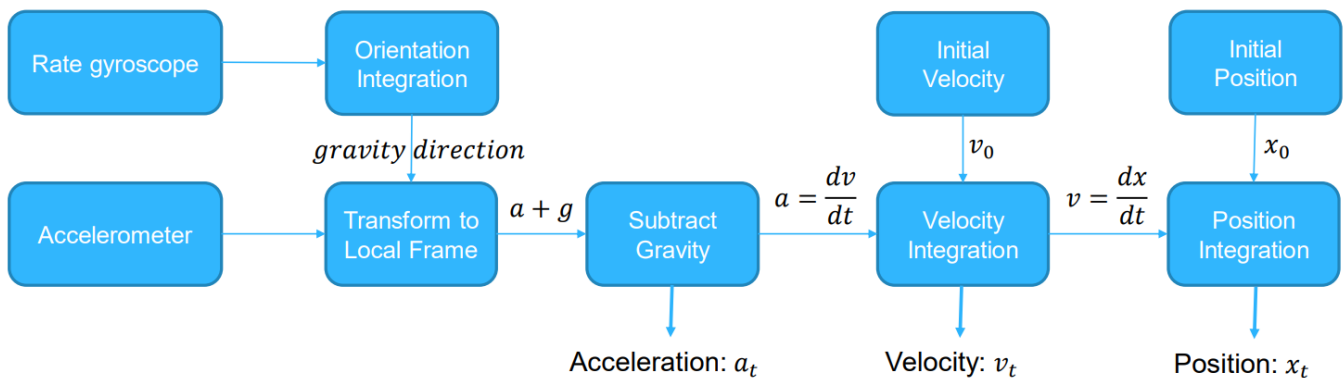
$$a + g = kx/m$$



Inertial Measurement Units

IMU's (aka INS) combines 3 gyros and 3 axes accelerometers to calculate relative position, velocity, and acceleration. Can also contain GPS to combine several measurements for better results. Can be used in a GPS outage.

IMU / INS Step-down algorithm



Global Navigation Satellite System

System of satellites that transmit positioning and timing data to receivers.

- Satellites transmit synchronised signals based on accurate clocks
- Signal is a 1023 pseudo random number (PRN)
- Receiver computes propagation time by evaluating shift of PRN relative to time $t=0$

$$d = ct$$

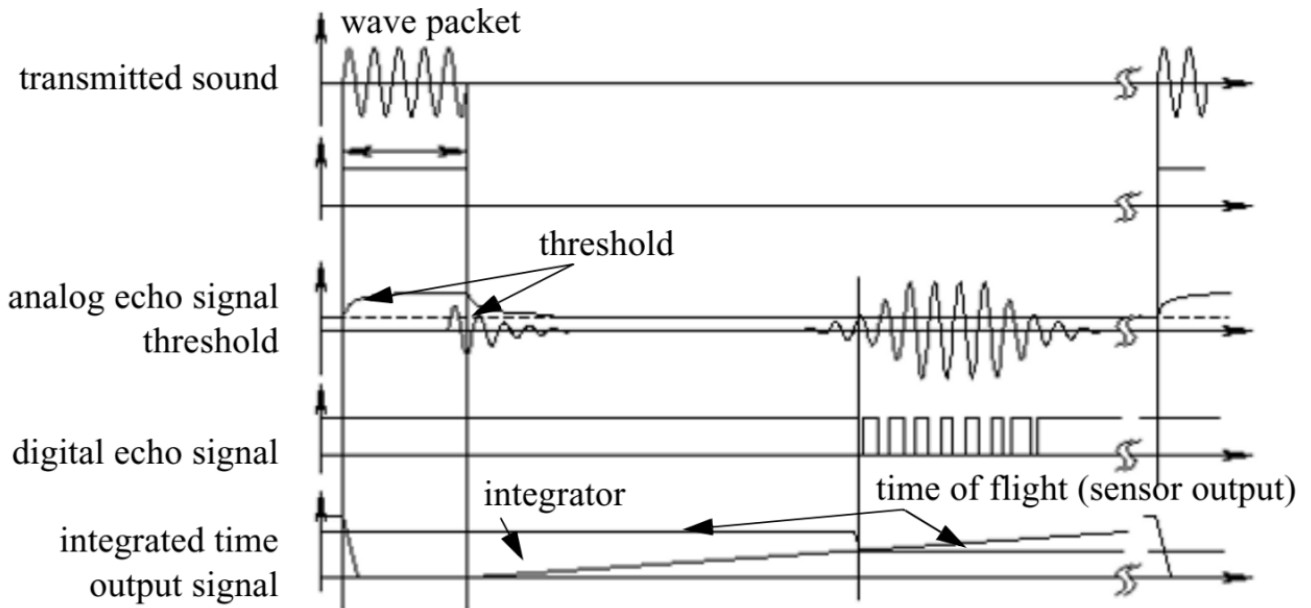
computing d for multiple satellites allows trilateration of position

- 3 satellites for position plus one for time sync

Ultrasonic Sensors

Emits ultrasonic waves and computes distance based on RTT. Low frequency = higher range. Can have poor angular resolution and low bandwidth.

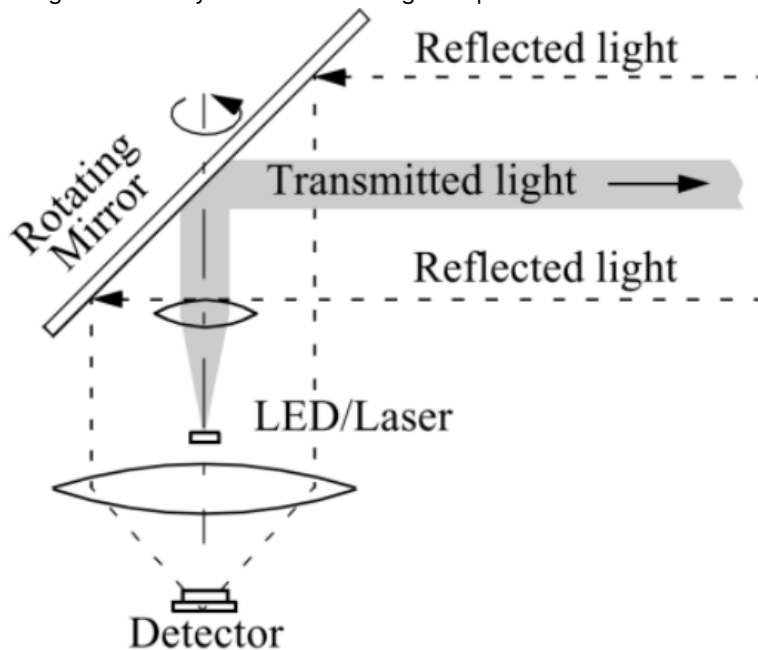
$d = (ct)/2$
 $c = 343\text{m/s}$
 $t = \text{time}$



Lidar

Calculates distance based on a ToF sensor.

- Emits laser pulse
 - Laser pulses reflect from the scene
 - High speed system measures RTT
- Rotating a 2D lidar system or combining multiple lasers can achieve a 3D scan.



RGBD

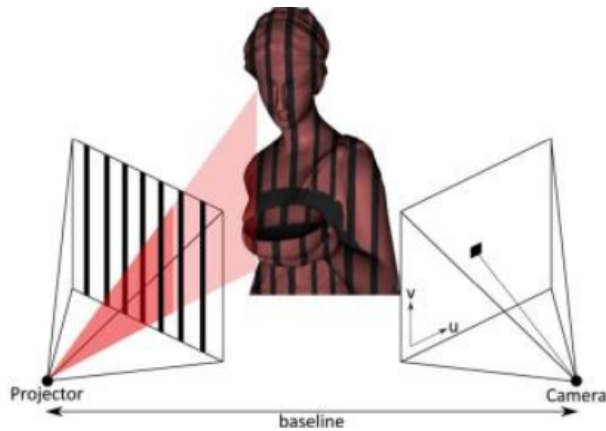
Red Green Blue Distance. Used to enable depth sensing with cameras.

Structured Light

Image data combined with IR camera data. Based on optical triangulation. Bypasses feature matching though projecting a known pattern. Depth is determined by:

$d = (bf)/m$
 $b = \text{baseline}$
 $f = \text{focal length}$
 $m = \text{desparity}$

- Low cost, high FPS
- Sunlight causes interference. ToF limited to spatial resolution.
- Used in Kinect V1



ToF

Uses high speed near infrared (NIR) light source. Sensor measures reflected illumination. Light is pulsed at period Δt . Every pixel samples in 2 out of phase time windows C1 and C2.

$$d = \frac{1}{2} c \Delta t \left(\frac{Q_2}{Q_1 + Q_2} \right)$$

c : speed of light

Q_i : charge collect in integration window C_i

