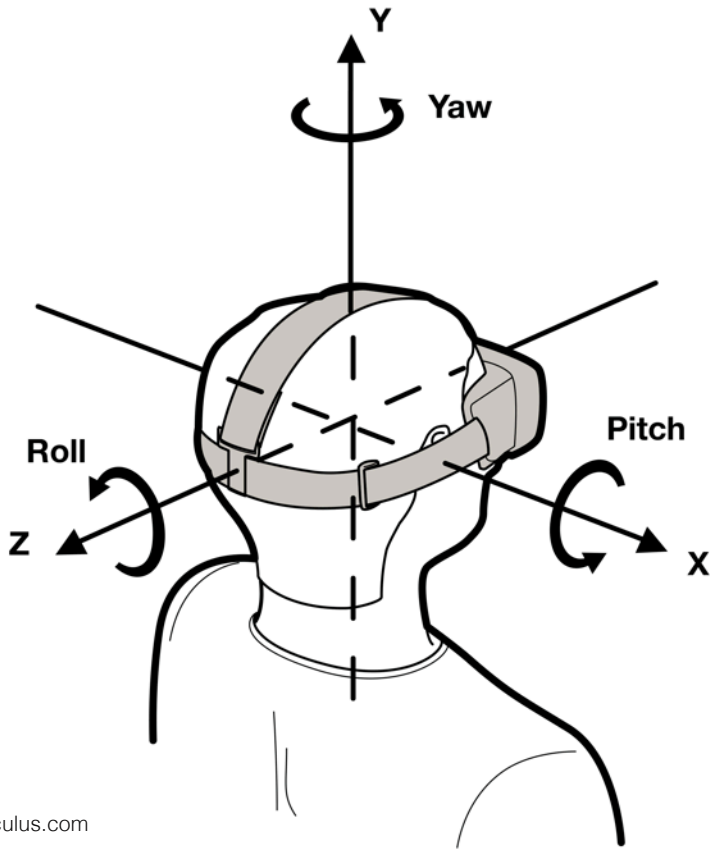


- primary goal: track orientation of head or other device
- orientation is the rotation of device w.r.t. world/earth or *inertial* frame
- rotations are represented by Euler angles (yaw, pitch, roll) or quaternions



- orientation tracked with IMU models relative rotation of sensor/body frame in world/inertial coordinates
- example: person on the left looks up  $\rightarrow$  pitch= $90^\circ$  or rotation around x-axis by  $90^\circ$
- similarly, the world rotates around the sensor frame by  $-90^\circ$  (inverse rotation)

# What do Inertial Sensors Measure?

- gyroscope measures angular velocity  $\tilde{\omega}$  in degrees/sec
- accelerometer measures linear acceleration  $\tilde{a}$  in m/s<sup>2</sup>
- magnetometer measures magnetic field strength  $\tilde{m}$  in uT (micro Tesla) or Gauss  $\rightarrow$  1 Gauss = 100 uT

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ALL MEASUREMENTS TAKEN IN SENSOR/  
BODY COORDINATES!

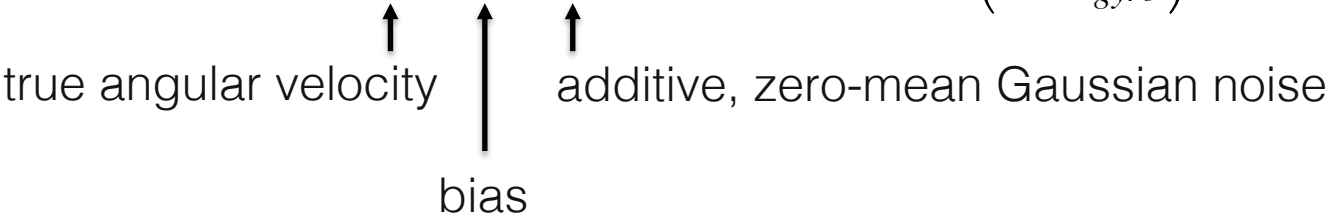
# Gyroscopes

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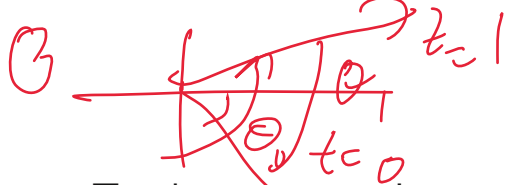
↑ true angular velocity      ↑ bias      ↑ additive, zero-mean Gaussian noise
- 3 DOF = 3-axis gyros that measures 3 orthogonal axes, assume no crosstalk
- bias is temperature-dependent and may change over time; can approximate as a constant
- additive measurement noise

# Gyroscopes

- from gyro measurements to orientation – use Taylor expansion

$$\theta(t + \Delta t) \approx \theta(t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \theta(t) \Delta t + \varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim O(\Delta t^2)$$



$$\Theta_r = \Theta_0 \gamma (1 - \delta)^{*w}$$


- from gyro measurements to orientation – use Taylor expansion

have: angle at last time step

have:  
time step

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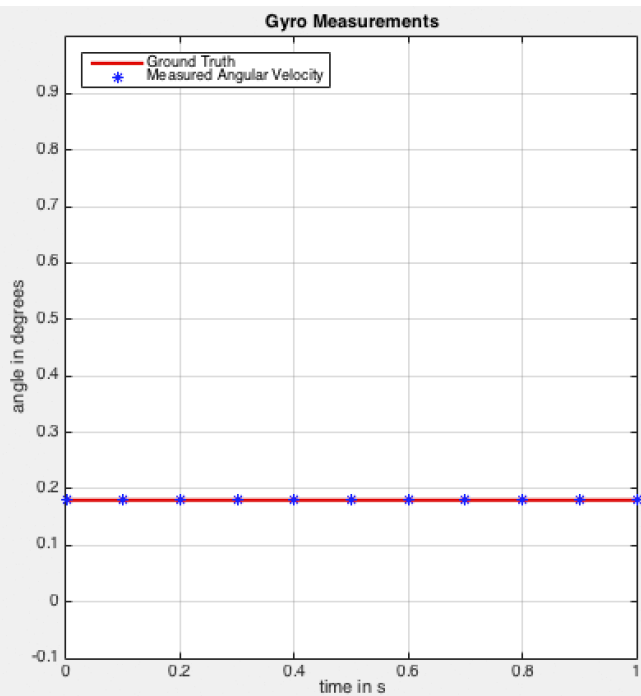
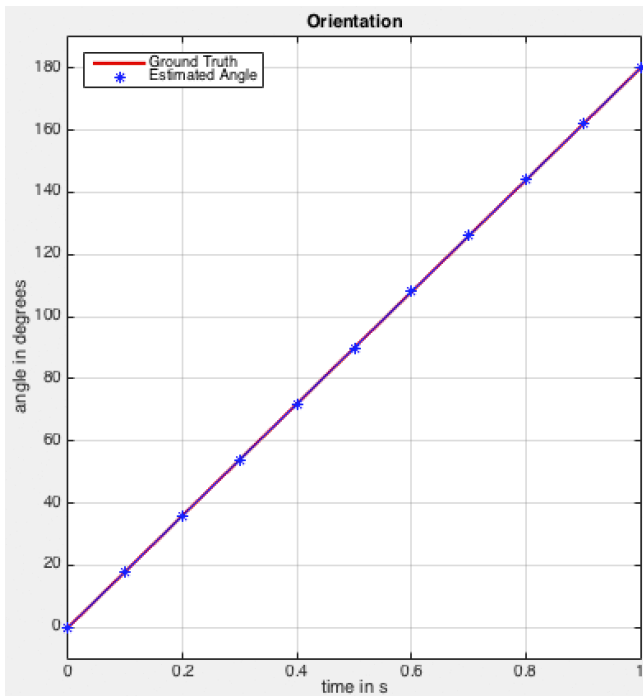
want: angle at  
current time step

$$= \omega$$

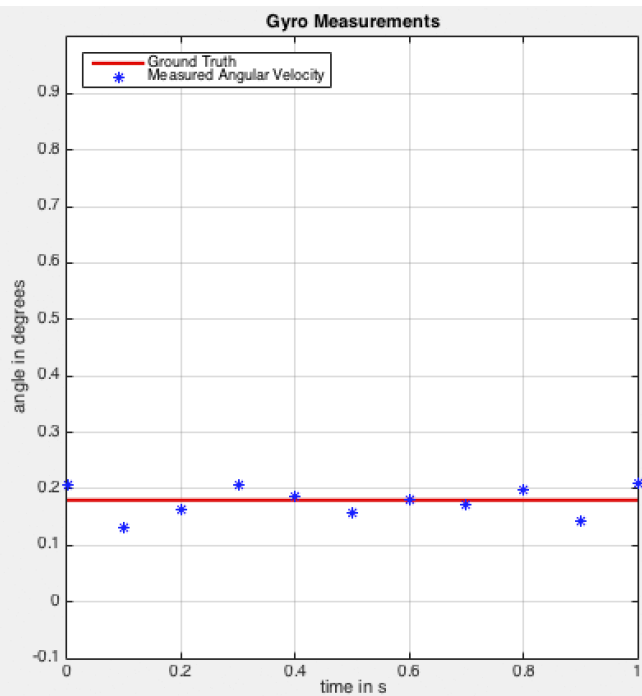
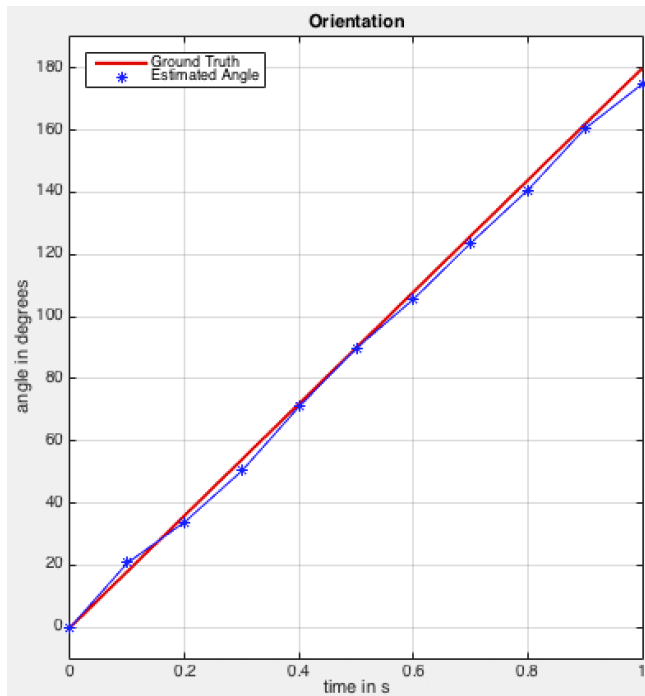
↑  
approximation error!

have: gyro measurement  
(angular velocity)

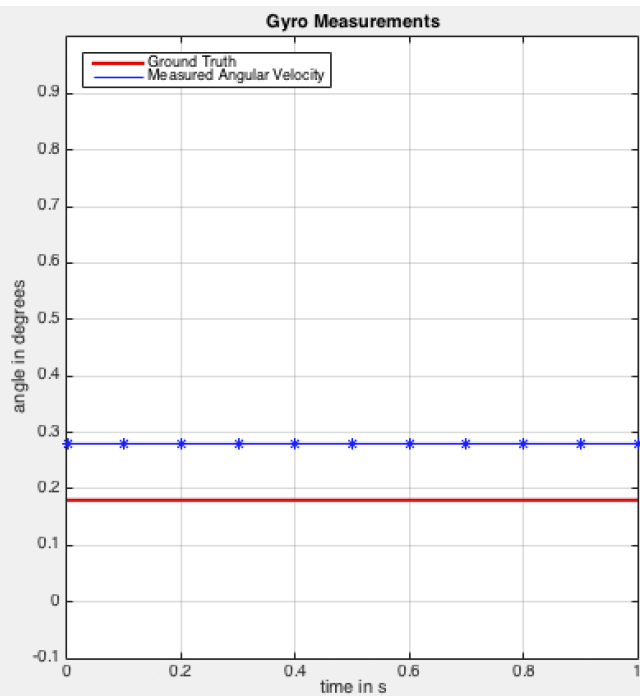
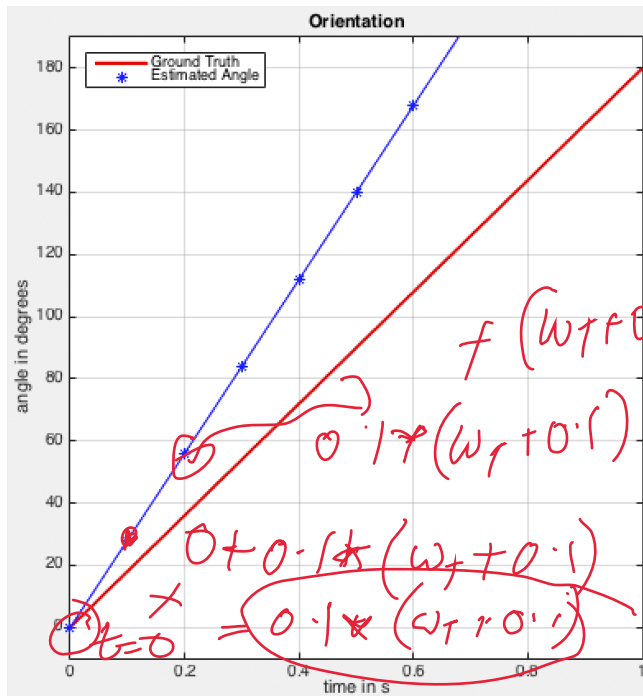
# Gyro Integration: linear motion, no noise, no bias



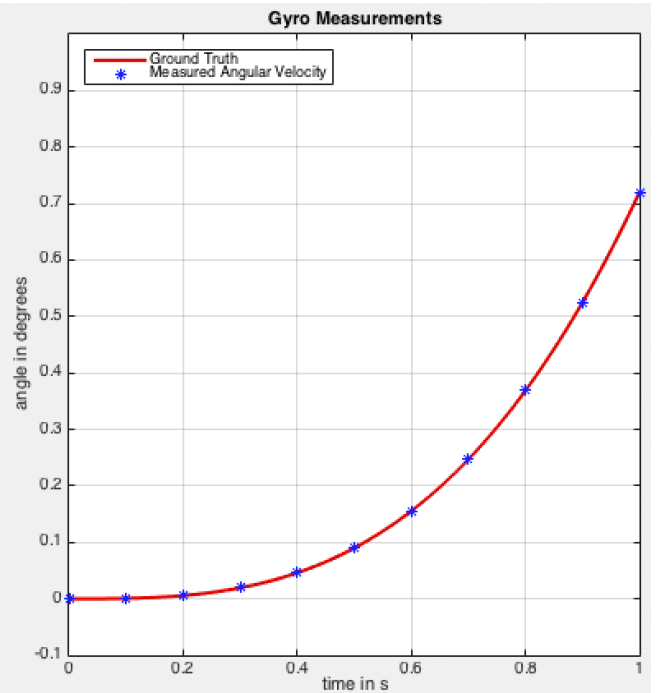
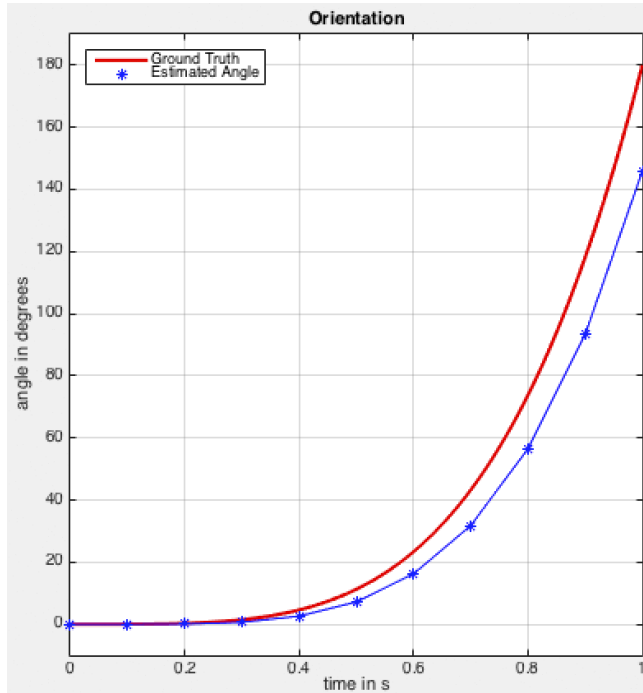
# Gyro Integration: linear motion, noise, no bias



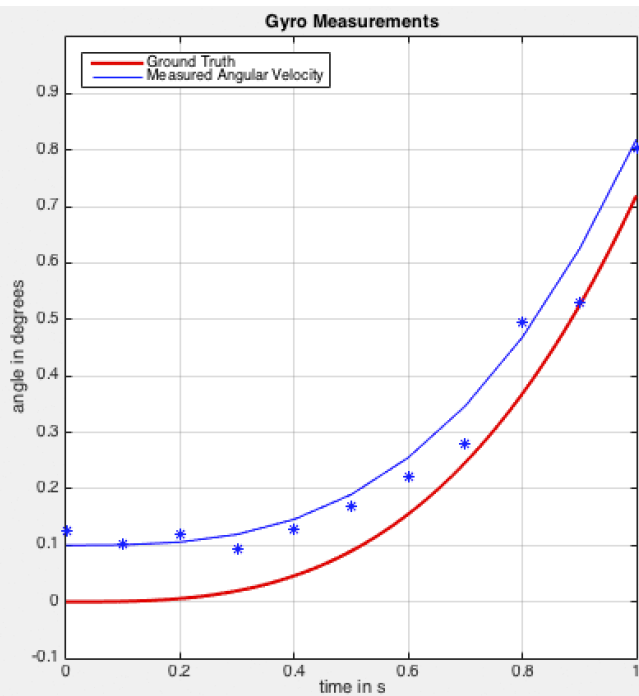
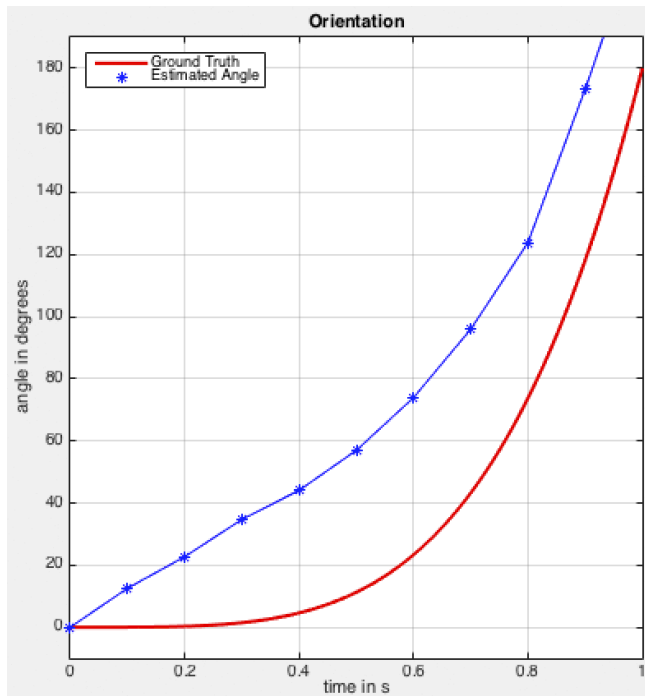
# Gyro Integration: linear motion, no noise, bias



# Gyro Integration: nonlinear motion, no noise, no bias



# Gyro Integration: nonlinear motion, noise, bias



# Gyro Integration aka *Dead Reckoning*

- works well for linear motion, no noise, no bias = unrealistic
- even if bias is known and noise is zero → drift (from integration)
- bias & noise variance can be estimated, other sensor measurements used to correct for drift (sensor fusion)
- accurate in short term, but not reliable in long term due to drift

# Gyro Advice

Always be aware of what units you are working with, degrees per second v radians per second!



# Accelerometers

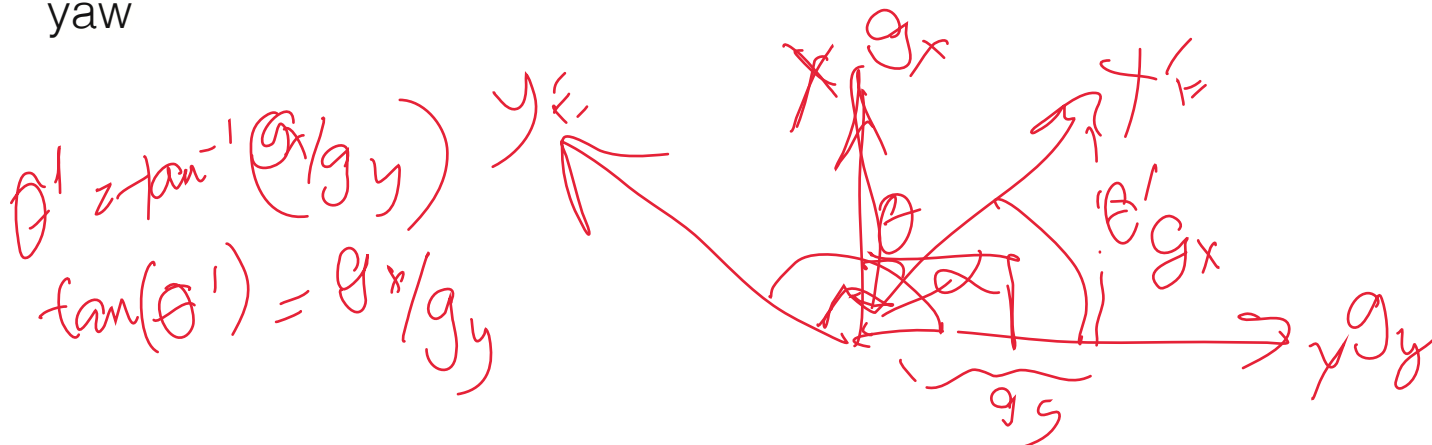
- measure linear acceleration  $\tilde{a} = a^{(g)} + a^{(l)} + \eta$ ,  $\eta \sim N(0, \sigma_{acc}^2)$
- without motion: read noisy gravity vector  $a^{(g)} + \eta$  pointing UP!  
with magnitude  $9.81 \text{ m/s}^2 = 1g$
- with motion: combined gravity vector and external forces  $a^{(l)}$

# Accelerometers

- advantages:
  - points up on average with magnitude of 1g
  - accurate in long term because no drift and the earth's center of gravity (usually) doesn't move
- problem:
  - noisy measurements
  - unreliable in short run due to motion (and noise)
- complementary to gyro measurements!

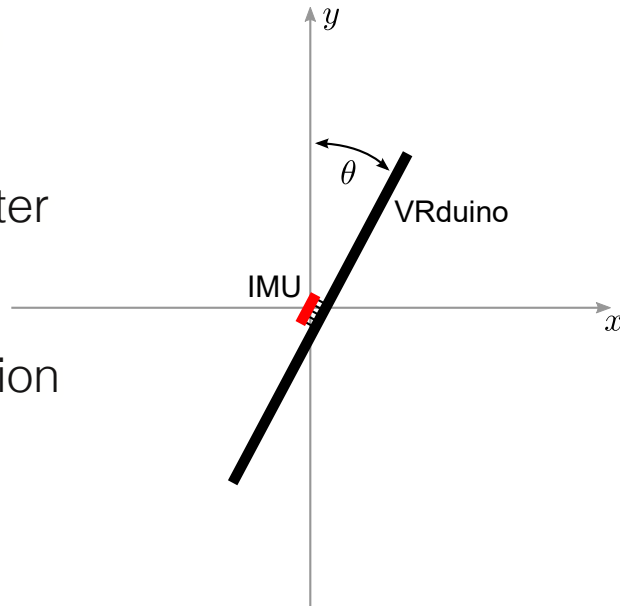
# Accelerometers

- fusing gyro and accelerometer data = 6 DOF sensor fusion
- can correct tilt (i.e., pitch & roll) only – no information about yaw



# Orientation Tracking in *Flatland*

- problem: track angle  $\theta$  in 2D space
- sensors: 1 gyro, 2-axis accelerometer
- goal: understand 6-DOF sensor fusion

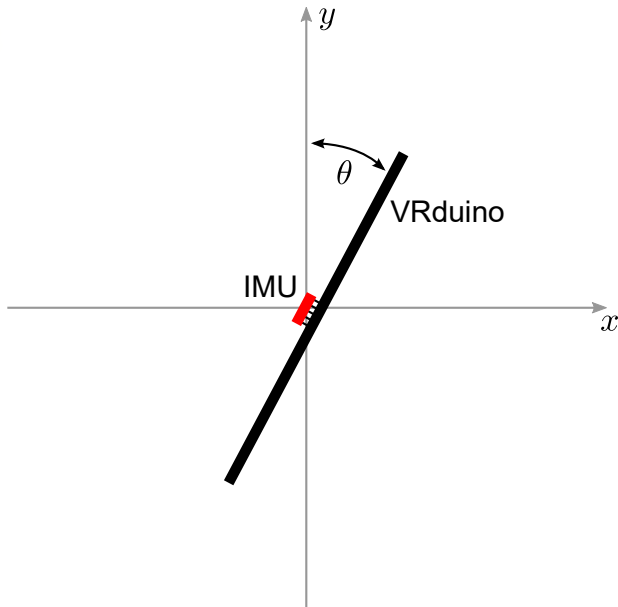


# Orientation Tracking in *Flatland*

- gyro integration via Taylor series as

$$\theta_{gyro}^{(t)} = \theta_{gyro}^{(t-1)} + \tilde{\omega} \Delta t$$

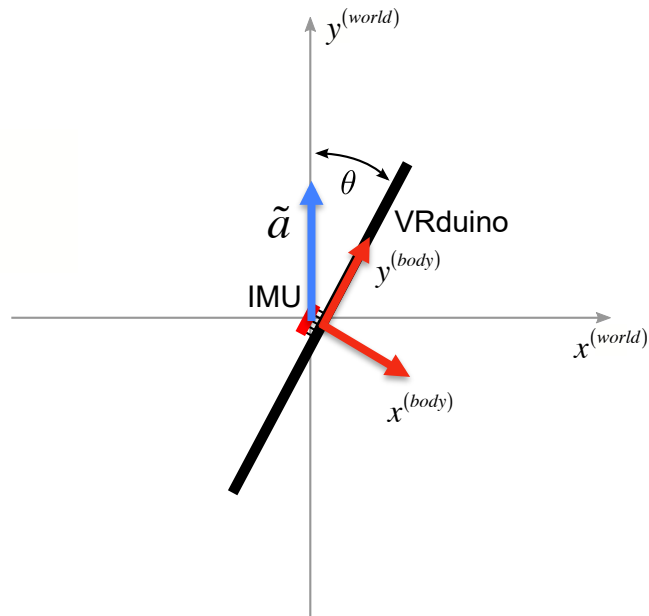
- get  $\Delta t$  from microcontroller
- set  $\theta_{gyro}^{(0)} = 0$
- biggest problem: drift!



# Orientation Tracking in *Flatland*

- angle from accelerometer

$$\theta_{acc} = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\tilde{a}_x}{\tilde{a}_y} \right)$$



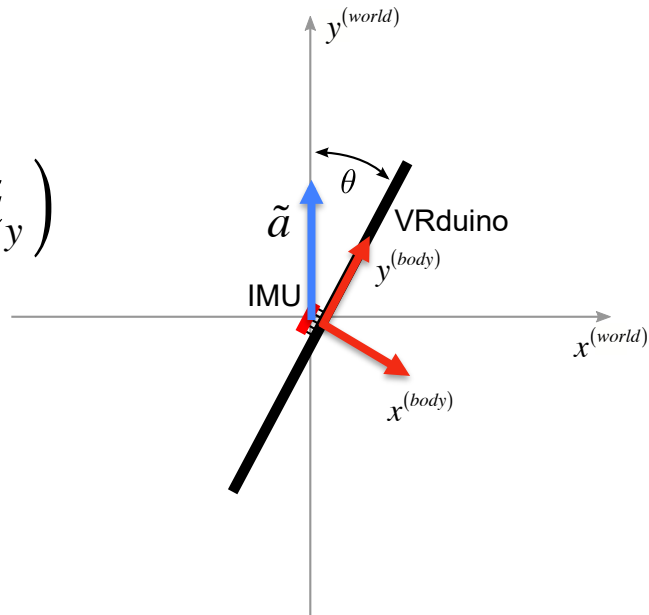
# Orientation Tracking in *Flatland*

- angle from accelerometer

$$\theta_{acc} = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\tilde{a}_x}{\tilde{a}_y} \right) = \text{atan2}(\tilde{a}_x, \tilde{a}_y)$$



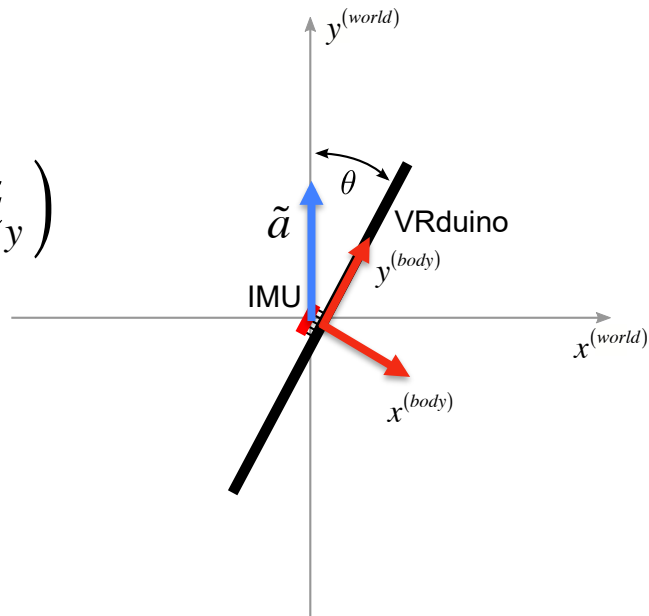
handles division by 0 and  
proper signs, provided by most  
programming languages



# Orientation Tracking in *Flatland*

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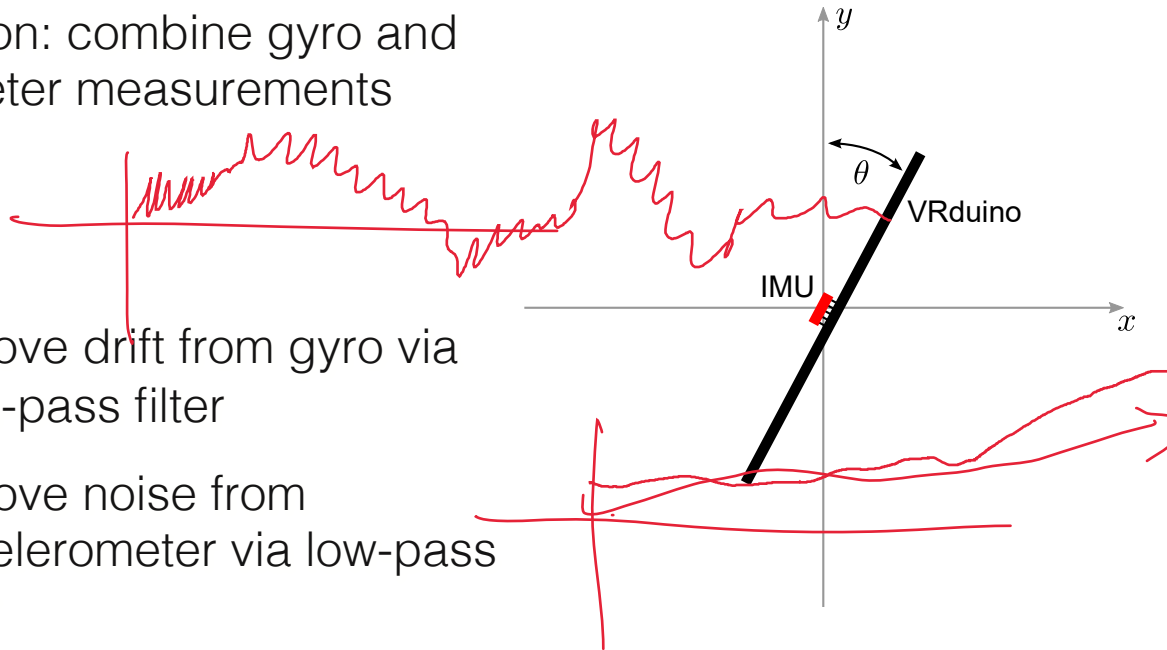


- biggest problem: noise



# Orientation Tracking in *Flatland*

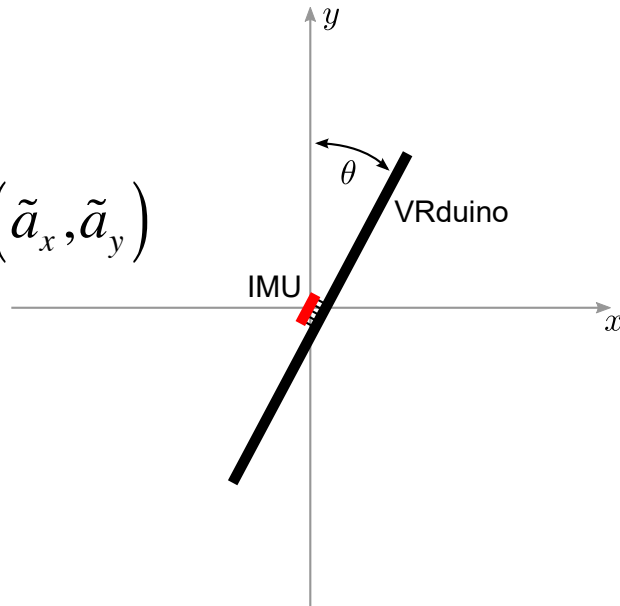
- sensor fusion: combine gyro and accelerometer measurements
- intuition:
  - remove drift from gyro via high-pass filter
  - remove noise from accelerometer via low-pass filter



# Orientation Tracking in *Flatland*

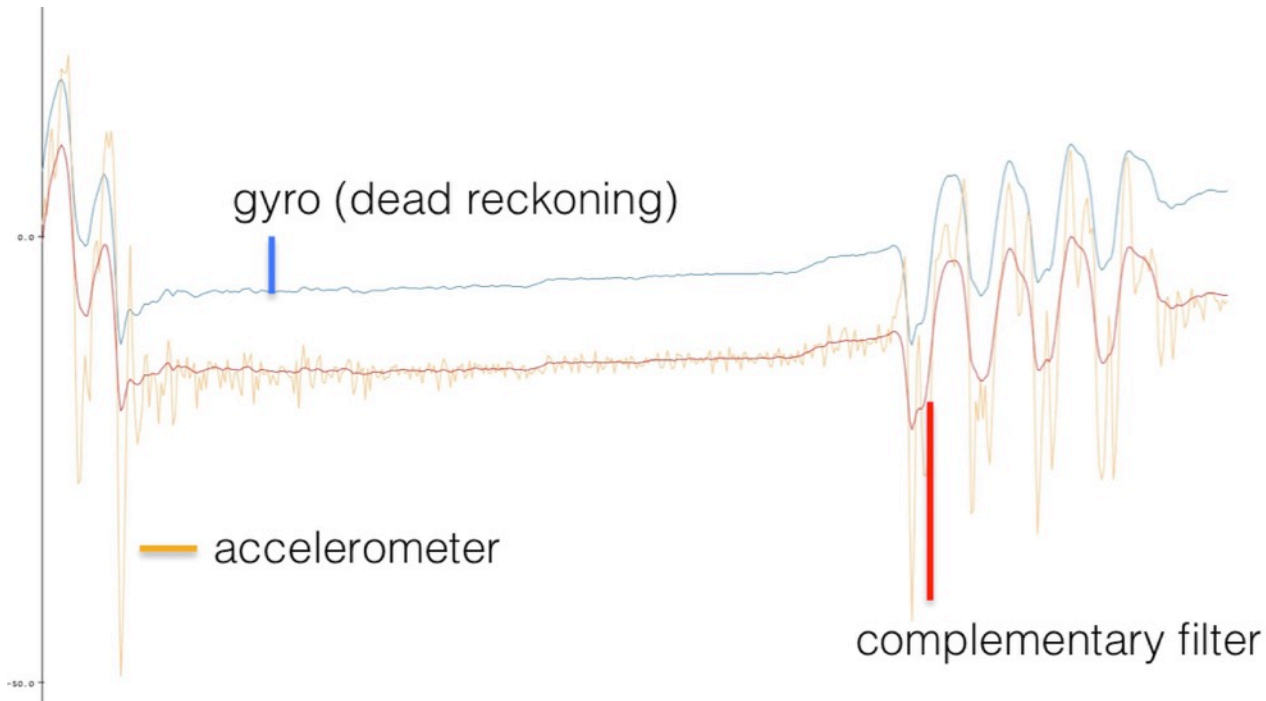
- sensor fusion with complementary filter, i.e. linear interpolation

$$\theta^{(t)} = \alpha \left( \theta^{(t-1)} + \tilde{\omega} \Delta t \right) + (1 - \alpha) \text{atan2}(\tilde{a}_x, \tilde{a}_y)$$



- no drift, no noise!

# Orientation Tracking in *Flatland*



# Magnetometers

- measure earth's magnetic field in Gauss or  $\mu\text{T}$
- 3 orthogonal axes = vector pointing along the magnetic field
- actual direction depends on latitude and longitude!
- distortions due to metal / electronics objects in the room or in HMD

# Magnetometers

- advantages:
  - complementary to accelerometer – gives yaw (heading)
- problems:
  - affected by metal, distortions of magnetic field
  - need to know location, even when calibrated (e.g. GPS)
- together with gyro + accelerometer = 9 DOF sensor fusion